

Dawn of New Era Finally Arrives in Visitacion Valley



by Fran Martin

Tuesday, April 21, 2009 was a red letter day for Visitacion Valley. On this auspicious day, demolition began at the former Schlage Lock facility.

In related news, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to create the Visitacion Valley Redevelopment Area. Mayor Newsom is required to sign the documents to approve and finalize the formation of the Redevelopment Area. These two major events mark the beginning of a new era in Visitacion Valley. Now that the way is clear to develop the Schlage Lock site, the community can one day look forward to a grocery store, jobs, housing, open space and prosperity in a unifying new development.

This is the culmination of 10 years of efforts on the part of the Visitacion Valley Planning Alliance, a grassroots community organization, which has advocated for community planning at Schlage Lock, as well as the entire Valley.

Since 1999, VVPA has held monthly educational meetings about transportation and land use issues and has advocated for housing, open space, neighborhood serving retail and community amenities.

The community, the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency, Planning Department staff, and the developer, Universal Paragon Corporation, have all worked together to get to this point. The Re-



Dora Ulagalelei at Schlage demolition.



Pulverizer takes aim and smashes into a building at the former Schlage Lock site.

development Citizen's Advisory Committee has also met monthly for over two years.

The remediation (toxics clean up) and demolition processes are being directed by Mary Hashem and Stuart Miner, Principals at Brownfield Partners, an urban infill and brownfield development company.

They in turn are working with sub-contractors Recycled Materials Corporation, American Demolition and MACTEC to complete the work.

Demolition will take about three months and the remediation will take a little less than three years. Pre-demolition work, including removal of asbestos and lead contaminants (abatement) and stripping of useful metal materials, has actually been going on for a few months, but was largely contained within the buildings.

Since the asbestos and lead have been already removed, there is less chance of harmful dust from the demolition process.

From Tunnel Avenue, you can get a view of the work, which proceeds from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday. You will see workers spraying water on the demolition debris to minimize dust and giant wrecking machines, such as the Pulverizer, taking bites out of the concrete four stories high. It is interesting to watch, if you get a chance.

The demolition is the physical manifestation of the big changes coming to the Valley. Actual vertical construction will not happen

for a few years. At that time, a significant number of jobs will be available.

In the meantime, Brownfield Partners is working with CityBuild to put some local residents to work on the project and to help create a training program for similar projects around the city.

It is important that there be accountable job training and preparation for hiring for local community members, which is in the works. Shown in the accompanying photo is Dora Ulagalelei from Visitacion Valley who is a union member currently working at the site.

It is critical that community members stay focused and involved in the design process to insure that the new development will be beautiful, green and sustainable.

Meanwhile, we should all take a moment to celebrate our victory and dream about a new, revitalized Visitacion Valley.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the demolition, please call J.C. Wolford, Site Supervisor at the site at (415) 505-8083 or Mary Hashem at 215-2813.

Mary Hashem will be at the next Visitacion Valley Planning Alliance meeting on Saturday, May 9, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon to discuss the demolition and remediation processes. There will also be an update on ongoing Valley issues. For further information, please call (415) 468-0639.

Visitacion Valley Neighborhood Library Campaign Gets Started

by Betty Parshall

On March 31, about 22 people met at the library on Leland Avenue to learn about the Neighborhood Library Campaign. Marian Chatfield-Taylor from the Friends of the Library passed out printed information sheets and discussed how and why the neighborhood campaigns work.

There are two overall purposes of the campaign. First, to raise money for those things that public bond money cannot cover, that is furniture, fixtures, up-to-date technology and other equipment. The bond money covers renovation or construction of buildings, but not the furnishings.

The second purpose of the campaign is to increase neighborhood support for its library and for a superior public library system in San Francisco. Each Neighborhood Library Campaign Committee will be active for about 2 years, will meet at least monthly, and can expect to devote an average of five or six hours a month to their campaign. The roles of committee members are varied:

- *Provide local direction and implementation for their Neighborhood Library Campaign.

- *Partner with the Friends of the Library staff to recruit and involve diverse community members to work on the Campaign.

- *Help organize and/or participate in community events or fundraisers.

- *Promote a spirit of friendly problem-solving, mutual respect and cooperation among individuals and groups engaged in the Campaign.

- *Evaluate the Neighborhood Library Campaign's efforts and

make improvements and changes as needed.

*Maintain appropriate confidentiality with regard to fundraising for the Campaign.

Participation from people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities is welcome. There are many roles and responsibilities to carry out on the Campaign Committee, not all of which have to do directly with soliciting funds. People will be needed to organize and plan events, keep committee records, facilitate meetings, and more.

Marian asked the group to go round and say how and when each learned to appreciate libraries, and the answers were as varied as the people there. For some it was at an early age, for some it was at college; research, favorite children's books, free books – these were a few of the reasons for love of the library. Sister Patsy's love started with a game of building with bricks; a brick was earned for each book read.

The group did a bit of brainstorming ideas for fund raising: Visitacion Valley will benefit from learning about successful events and efforts in other neighborhoods across the city.

With demolition of the old market at Leland and Rutland and a ground breaking celebration probably taking place in May, the Neighborhood Library Campaign Committee will be off and running. Meeting times and places will be announced throughout the neighborhood. For more information, contact

Marian Chatfield-Taylor at 415-626-7512, ext. 103, or e-mail her marian.ctaylor@friendssfpl.org

Parents Get Empowered at "Little Vis"

One of the strategies Visitacion Valley Elementary School (VVES) is using this school year to help close the Achievement Gap is "parent empowerment." After all, parents are the students' first teachers.

A series of three banquets were given at VVES and parents of all the students targeted for academic improvement. On March 24, Asian parents were invited to attend a dinner/workshop, with guest speakers child psychologist Dr. Li Tak Ting and Richie Wong of VVES. Then on March 26, it was the Latino and Samoan parents' turn.

The motivational speakers were Mr. Maua, a well-known and liked Samoan Community Liaison, and Rocio Soto de Mobley, a local Latina Parent Liaison.

Finally, on April 2, African American families were invited, and Mr. Tim Brown, Learning Support Professional at "Little Vis" was the speaker. He talked about how parents should empower themselves by successfully helping their children im-

prove academically, and getting more involved in their education at school and at home.

Principal Vincent Chao offered some testing tips to parents: make sure the children get a good night of sleep, feel rested and "joyful," get a hearty breakfast and arrive at school punctually.

Parents should also encourage their children to take the test seriously, to take their time answering comprehension questions and solving Math problems.

Since the STAR test is untimed, students must not rush through it. Correct answers are the only ones that count!

Every parent received a door prize and a "practice test" to take home and practice taking the CST test during the Spring Break. Whether this strategy would help close the school Achievement Gap will be found out this August/September.

Currently, the Academic Performance Index (API) of VVES is 835. The goal is to increase the API to 850 this Fall.

Local Swimmer Honored for Courage



Larry Jones: right place at right time.

On Friday, March 13, Larry Jones was at the Coffman swimming pool attending a water aerobics class. Larry serves on Visitacion Valley's Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC) Board, as well as a job developer for VVDC.

At the class, he witnessed a man exercising in the pool and felt con-

cerned about his capacity to manage the depth of water he was in. Larry stopped what he was doing to observe him a little closer. He noticed that this classmate lost his balance and started to panic upon the realization that he was in water 9 feet deep and couldn't stand up.

The classmate stopped treading water and as Larry saw him start to sink, he swam under water as hard as he could to save him. Larry pulled the man from the water and delivered him to the waiting lifeguards who had realized that they were needed.

Larry received an award for bravery and courage from the City and County of San Francisco's Recreation and Park Department. He said this incident will remain in his memory as one of the best deeds he has ever performed and won't hesitate to do it again.

Grapevine Mailbox

Proposed Muni Fare Increase

I have been a Muni rider since 1966. During 1993-94, I initiated a bilingual petition that received over 5,000 signatures when Muni proposed to cut the #15 line. My alternative suggestion was to increase the five-day #9 express buses to the current seven-day service that have benefited thousands of our Southeast sector residents.

Actually, some current riders complain that during the peak hours, they can't even board the very jam-packed express buses midway. Since high ridership lines are more likely to meet operating costs, so Muni's proposal to raise higher fares for the express lines (Premium Monthly Pass) are really unreasonable.

Moreover, since the three #9 Express lines serve thousands of riders in District 10, our economically challenged residents will end up paying much higher fares. If Muni plans to charge 50 cents for transfers, what proof of fares can riders show Muni inspectors if they don't need transfers? Yes! There's also a proposal to charge meters on weekends. It's really upsetting to read more of Muni's proposed raises. They should curb wastes and excesses of expenses.

For this reason, I have drafted a new petition (in another e-mail) to help curb the fare increases. If you can help me circulate to get supporters to sign, please contact me. I plan to have it translated first.

Marlene Tran, Spokesperson, Visitation Valley Asians Alliance

Projected \$128.9 Million Deficit Requires Decisions

As a result of the global economic downturn, a national recession, the elimination of state funding for transit operations and a City budget deficit approaching a half billion dollars, the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) is facing an unprecedented budget deficit of \$128.9 million for the next fiscal year that begins on July 1.

The SFMTA Board of Directors will be considering a broad range of options to increase revenues and reduce costs.

***Fare and Fee Increases:** Proposed increases to Muni fares and parking fees, fines and rates and a proposed extension of parking meter hours.

***Service Modifications and Reductions:** Three possible comprehensive options of service cuts, reductions and modifications have been proposed. If approved these cuts, reductions and modifications would most likely be implemented in September. Specific details of each of these three options can be viewed at www.sfmta.com/sfmtabudget. Please note that the service cuts, reductions and modifications developed in response to the SFMTA's unprecedented budget deficit do not represent the implementation of the Transit Effectiveness Project (TEP). However, the proposed reductions and modifications have been informed by the data collected and the extensive public input received during the TEP planning phase.

***Taxi Medallions:** A proposal that 100 taxi Medallions be auctioned on a pilot basis.

Declaration of Fiscal Emergency
*A "fiscal emergency" means that the agency is projected to have negative funding within one year from the date of declaration. It is

important to note that a declaration of fiscal emergency does not by itself implement service reductions or changes to fares, fees, fines, rates and charges that support transit service.

*The SFMTA last declared a fiscal emergency in 2005.

Following the SFMTA Board of Directors submittal of an Amended Operating Budget to the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors on May 1, the Board of Supervisors has 30 days to allow it to take effect or to reject the entirety of the Amended Budget with seven or more votes.

Get to Know Your Local CBO

For close to five years I worked for the Visitation Valley Community Development Corporation (VVCDC). In March I was asked to leave my position by the board, which had recently acquired new members. While I was the Executive Director of VVCDC, I often heard from residents about the potentially toxic effects of Community Based Organizations (CBOs) on the neighborhood. While I balked at the criticism, in many ways I understood the residents' concerns. Local nonprofits and CBOs can be powerful agents for change in a neighborhood – change that can be positive or negative. The main point is that CBOs can hold significant power, period. How that power is managed is an important caveat and lesson for residents of a neighborhood. It is vital that concerned community members exercise their rights to know the operations of a CBO, find places on the board of directors, and volunteer their time to help guide these local agencies in ways that are beneficial to the community.

CBOs receive funding for work that cities, counties, states, philanthropists and others feel is necessary in a neighborhood. The City, for example, might want to see improvements in the business district, or may want to provide funding to help low income persons find work or job training. Philanthropic organizations may have special projects they would like to see fulfilled, such as more environmentally friendly construction projects, or better healthcare options offered to residents. States often have an interest in seeing that children have after school programs and educational assistance. These entities will send money to a CBO, often with a strict and solid agreement for services. CBOs in many respects are agents of these funders, and responsive to the requests they make that a particular program or goal be implemented. All of these goals are generally seen as "good" but the devil is always in the details. How are these goals accomplished? Could CBOs be tempted to aggrandize a problem in order to receive more funding? Are the people who run the programs effective, and accountable for the money they receive?

There is oversight of CBOs, mostly by funders and nonprofit governance laws and regulations. However, the day to day operations of a CBO are largely monitored by its staff. The Executive Director sets the tone in how he or she tracks the progress of its programs, trains its workers and by establishing a sort of ethical and moral oversight of the work. The work must be necessary to help those identified by the CBO, should not create further problems in the neighborhood and should be accomplished in a professional manner. The work of that Executive Director should then be overseen by an informed and involved board of directors.

This is where the community has responsibility to demand more of its local CBOs. Get to know what CBOs are in your neighborhood. Find out what they do, how they do it, and demand transparency and accountability. Don't be shy about writing to the Mayor's office or your local rep-

resentative to complain about the work you see, or to praise the work that is being done. Local CBOs often lack the ability to advertise their work, but you will see them at events with booths or flyers. Get to know these folks and ask them what kind of work they are doing. They will be thrilled to know you care. Attend board meetings (board meetings are often open to the public); you have the right to ask to see their yearly reports. Visit their websites (VVCDC's website is vvcdc.org) and contact the persons listed to find out more about their programs. Look at the directors of the nonprofit – what are their interests on the board? Board members are usually very happy to talk about the organizations they represent and part of their job is to be the brains of the CBO – with information about the mission and direction of the organization. Directors of the board are ideally persons who are passionate about the cause the CBO serves and join the board because they want to see positive changes in a region, neighborhood, or around a certain cause. Directors are normally not paid to do the work they do – they function as volunteers and use their positions to advance the cause they believe in – not their own agendas.

During my tenure at VVCDC, our mission was to provide safe and affordable housing at Heritage Homes, operate the Village Community Center on Sunnydale Avenue, and work to help recruit local residents for jobs and training, including in the Green Job sector. VVCDC also worked with local residents to establish VVBOOM (Visitation Valley Business Opportunities and Outreach to Merchants) which helps to increase success of the Leland Bayshore shopping area. VVBOOM led by its Program Manager Nick Wolff also puts on the fun, exciting and successful Leland Avenue Street Fair.

While at VVCDC I worked for several years to obtain funding to extend the space at the Village so we could offer job training and youth programming facilities. That construction work was well underway when I left. It was my hope that the Village would have a ground floor space that would be a general drop-in employment center for all residents of the Valley to find job training and employment opportunities. VVCDC's team of highly effective job recruiters and developers (Mindy Kener, Terry Anders and Larry Jones) are hoping to make a big dent in the local unemployment rate and help to connect job seekers to the opportunities around construction and retail at the upcoming construction sites at Schlage Lock and the Sunnydale rehabilitation construction. VVCDC works closely with the Boys & Girls Clubs particularly the clubhouse at the Village, to help find ways to engage young people in programs that help them stay in school and find activities that are meaningful to them. Barbara Glaspie heads the Village Young Helpers program, an after school activity with young adults working with local groups and providing their own insight of how to help the precious youth of the Valley to stay on course. Sundra Underdue oversees the Village and its Green Janitorial Training Program (which uses nontoxic cleaning supplies and increases recycling at the Village). The Village was among the first public buildings in San Francisco to install solar panels. The solar panels and the management practices at the Village make it a model for sustainable community space in the Valley.

VVCDC has always acted as one of the leaders of the local community groups to help bring CBOs together to work collaboratively on projects to serve the entire neighborhood. Armon Bazile has been a very effective Community Convener and has established a local directory of services in Visitation Valley (please see the VVCDC website at vvcdc.org, click on the Community Convener icon).

VVCDC is just one of several CBOs that do fantastic work in the Valley.

Groups such as the Visitation Valley Community Center, the Beacon, Mercy Services and Mercy Housing's programs, Kim Mitchell's program at Sunnydale, the Samoan Community Center, the C.L.A.E.R. Project, Polly's Family Support, the Boys & Girls Clubs at Sunnydale and the Village, the Hawkins Health Clinic at the Village, Crittenton Jobs, Chinese for Affirmative Action and many others are hard at work in the Valley bringing a range of services to its residents. None of the CBOs are perfect, but with community involvement, transparency, better communication and the eyes and ears of everyone, including funders – we can all work to keep Visitation Valley the special and beautiful community it is.

Jennifer Dhillon is the former Executive Director of VVCDC. You may reach her at jennifer.dhillon@gmail.com

New Ingleside Captain

Following is a letter to the community from Captain David Lazar, new commanding officer at Ingleside Station, who in April succeeded Captain Denis O'Leary.

It truly is an honor to have been selected to serve as the new Captain of Ingleside Station. I want to thank Captain O'Leary for his leadership and for making this a smooth transition. I worked for Captain O'Leary when I was assigned as a Lieutenant at Southern Station. He is an excellent Captain who cares about the community and his officers.

I was fortunate to work at Ingleside Station from 1996 to 1999 as a Sergeant. I have always considered Ingleside Station my home and it is a place where outstanding officers, who are professional and dedicated, work tirelessly to ensure public safety for the residents, merchants and visitors of this district. I am well aware of the work being performed by the officers of Ingleside Station on a daily basis and as a result, crime is down in the district and the officers are well supported by the community. We are thankful for the great working relationship we have with the community and we look forward to continuing that close partnership with you.

I am a fourth generation San Franciscan, born and raised in the City, having attended public schools. I was a long time resident of the Ingleside District and now live one block outside of the Ingleside District in the Taraval District. This is my home and a great place to raise my family.

I am in my 18th year in the San Francisco Police Department and during the course of my career, I have been assigned to eight of the ten police stations, six investigative assignments in the Investigations Bureau and as the Lieutenant, I was in charge of training at the Police Academy. I also spent nearly three years representing the Department on all homeless issues as the coordinator of Operation Outreach. My assignment prior to arriving at Ingleside Station was that I served as the Commanding Officer over the Homicide, Robbery, Gang Task Force and Special Investigations units. I have brought this experience with me to Ingleside Station.

We have some challenges ahead of us as we near the summer months. We must continue to address the gang violence, armed and strong-arm robberies, drug dealing, traffic and property crime offenses. We will address these issues by continuing our ongoing enforcement operations and by vigorously pursuing those who commit serious crime in our district. Working with whom I believe are some of the finest Officers, Sergeants and Lieutenants in the Police Department, I am confident that we will achieve these and other policing goals.

Ingleside Police Station was selected by the Department and Police Commission to implement a new model of policing as recommended by the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF). These

community based recommendations are excellent and get to the core of Community Policing and Community Based Problem Solving. Over the coming months, the members of Ingleside Station, in partnership with the community and other stakeholders, will begin to implement these innovative ideas in best practice policing. We should all be proud that Ingleside Station was selected to implement this new model.

In conclusion, I look forward to meeting and working with all of the district community organizations, neighborhood watch groups, residents and merchants of our district. Our partnership goal is to improve the quality of life for our district and community. I am always accessible to you and I look forward to meeting with you in the weeks and months to come. I may be reached at 415-404-4030 or at david.lazar@sfgov.org.

Public Viewing at Library

The San Francisco Arts Commission is holding a public viewing through May 4 for the three proposals for the New Visitation Valley Branch Library Public Art Project at the current library at 45 Leland Ave.

Three artists/artist teams – Johanna Poethig, Mark Grieve & Ilana Spector, and Fran Martin & Jim Growden – were selected by the Visitation Valley Branch Community Artist Selection Panel to create proposals for the new artwork to be placed at the new library.

Come see the three proposals and provide the San Francisco Arts Commission with feedback by contributing your thoughts to the comment book on site. Comments will be shared with the Selection Panel before a proposals is selected.

For more information and to view proposals online, visit www.sfgov.org/sfartscommission or pubartcollection/ (see the link under the "News" section) and email comments to Ellen.Shershow@sfgov.org

About the Swine Flu

In light of the swine flu epidemic, what should one do to keep from getting the flu?

1. Very important: Wash your hands!
2. Stay in good general health: Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.
3. Try not touch surfaces that may be contaminated with the flu virus.
4. Avoid close contact with people who are sick.

For more info, see http://www.cd.cdc.gov/swineflu/swineflu_you.htm
UCSF Medical Center

Tree Planting Planned

Dear Neighbors:

Friends of the Urban Forest is planning to do another tree planting in Visitation Valley this summer! In the past the trees have been free due to special grants that targeted Vis Valley. However, the cost will now be \$65 per tree. This includes a 15 gallon container tree, concrete cutting and auger, permits, materials, two-month survey, 18 month check up, and staff time. It is still a great deal. Normally, it would be \$195 through FUF. If you were to do it yourself, it would be considerably more expensive and time consuming.

Please let me know, if you are interested in signing up for a tree. On the planting day, we will all get together and help each other plant our trees and then have a potluck lunch. We only need to sign up 20 households. I hope that we can get many more than that to sign up. Please pass the word on to your neighbors. It will be fun – you will get to know your neighbors, increase your property value and help beautify the entire neighborhood.

If anyone is unable to pay the fee, but wants a tree, let me know. Thank you, Fran Martin

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Grapevine on the Web
Read current and past stories from the Visitation Valley Grapevine at www.visvalleygrapevine.com

...from the desk of the VVBOOM newsroom

by Nick Wolff

Leland Avenue Sidewalk Sale Returns: It's that time of year again in the city of San Francisco – Small Business Week. That means on Saturday, May 16th business districts from the Fillmore to the Inner Sunset will be hosting sidewalk sales and Vis Valley is no exception. From 9am until 2pm, there will be bargains galore on Leland Avenue as businesses offer up astonishing discounts on a variety of eats, goodies and services -- I dare anyone to find better deals on aquariums, haircuts and chow fun (just to name a few). There will also be lots of free stuff for the whole family; including children's books, toothpaste and balloons. Additionally, VVBOOM has welcomed other community based organizations to collaborate in the fun. The Visitacion Valley Weed and Seed Program will be hosting a Summer Jam fundraising event during the sidewalk sale at the Hons Schiller Plaza of the Vis Valley Greenway with; live music, raffles and 'gently used clothing' available at unbeatable prices. Furthermore VVBOOM is encouraging neighbors to host garage sales on May 16th as well, all in an effort to make Vis Valley the destination for bargain shoppers. The sidewalk sale and related events are aiming to drive attendance and revenue to our small businesses besides; it's an opportunity to experience the sounds, scents and sights of



downtown Vis Valley on a beautiful Spring day. Saturday, May 16th – mark your calendars!



Merchant Watch Group United: Another strong showing of merchants and stakeholders packed the offices of VVBOOM (91 Leland Avenue) on a Wednesday evening and Saturday afternoon in early April in a sign of cohesion along our business corridor. The 20+ small business owners and commercial district stakeholders who attended Wednesday evening were joined by Ingleside Lieutenant Cassanego, San Francisco Safety and Awareness for Everyone (SF SAFE) Business Security Specialist Furlishous Wyatt and VVBOOM who again facilitated effective dialogue on community crime prevention. A similar scene took place the following Saturday, and by week's end an official Leland Avenue Merchant Watch group had been established. How did it happen? In a fundamental sense; by a spirited commitment to safety on the part of Leland Avenue small business owners built on communication, trust and belief that the best crime prevention device ever invented is a good neighbor. This took the physical form of a 'Moptree' (corridor map + phone tree) created to show the



geographic boundaries of the Merchant Watch Group and was put into operation. A copy of the membership list and map was submitted to SF SAFE for registration and Merchant Watch window decals will soon be issued to members. It's official. We're legit.

Farewell Captain: Farmer Ingleside Police District Captain Denis O'Leary was officially replaced on Saturday April 18th by Captain David Lozor. The change in leadership stemmed from a reorganization of the entire San Francisco Police Department. O'Leary demonstrated a dedication to the downtown Vis Valley business district (among other parts of the community) through his participation our monthly merchant safety walks on Leland Avenue. He took time to personally meet small business owners face to face, listened to their concerns and increased patrol levels. We'll miss working with him. O'Leary assured me the new captain is, "a good police officer and a fine man...you will like working with him." We'll take his word; why wouldn't we?

Grapevine Mailbox

Youth Essay Contest

We are extremely excited to present the youth of our community with the awesome opportunity to attend a Youth Leadership Forum in Chicago. This Youth Leadership Forum is sponsored by NeighborWorks and the Community Capacity Development Office of the U.S. Department of Justice as a forum for youth groups and their adult advisors from across the country to build youth leadership capacity.

At the forum, youth will participate in numerous activities to improve their leadership skills and to learn community development techniques they can bring back to their own communities.

The main objective of the forum is to help community youth leaders explore new ways to become engaged in Weed & Seed so that they can promote positive change for other youth and families living in the youth's home community.

We are only able to sponsor four students to attend this leadership forum; therefore we have decided to have an Essay Contest that will determine which youth get to go on the trip.

The Essay Contest will be open to all Vis Valley Youth in the community ages 16 to 19. All interested youth are asked to write a 300 word essay on the topic: "As a young leader, how can you help bring positive change to your community?" Youth should submit their essays to the Vis Valley Community Beacon Center, 450 Raymond Ave. by Wednesday, May 6, 2009.

An Essay Contest judging committee comprised of Vis Valley Weed & Seed Steering Committee Members will select the top four winning essays.

Those four winners will be rewarded with the all expenses paid trip to the Youth Leadership Forum in Chicago. This training forum is from August 16-20, 2009 in Chicago, Illinois. There will be one adult chaperone for the four youth selected.

The trip includes round-trip airfare from San Francisco to Chicago, meals and lodging, attendance at the training forum and all training materials.

Please call me at (415) 452-4907, or my voicemail (415) 794-9274, to confirm your participation in our Essay Contest. And do not hesitate to contact me if you need any

further information or if you have any questions. This promises to be a very important, thought provoking and beneficial exercise for all the youth involved. It really is an outstanding opportunity for the youth to be able to attend this Youth Leadership Forum in Chicago. We look forward to reading your essays.

Sincerely, Michael Bennett, Visitacion Valley Community Beacon Center Weed & Seed Coordinator

Foreclosure in San Francisco

If you are being threatened with foreclosure in San Francisco – whether you are renting or own your home – help is available.

The City and County of San Francisco is working hard to keep San Franciscans in their homes during this economic crisis. The City established a Fair Lending Working Group, through the efforts of Supervisor Maxwell, Assessor-Recorder Ting, and Treasurer José Cisneros, which was comprised of representatives from community-based organizations that counsel at-risk homeowners, financial service institutions, the mortgage broker industry, real estate professionals, and advocacy groups.

The group's recommendations fall within four policy objectives: preserving homeownership and preventing foreclosure; preventing predatory lending practices; protecting tenants rights during and after foreclosure; and ensuring that affordable housing development and retention remains a top City priority.

Homeowners facing foreclosure can contact the Mission Economic Development Agency (MEDA) at (888) 780-5850; the San Francisco Housing Development Corporation (SFHDC) at (415) 822-1022; Asian Inc. at (415) 928-5910; or the San Francisco Consumer Credit Counseling Service at (800) 355-2227.

Tenants can contact the Housing Rights Committee of San Francisco at (415) 703-8644; Comité De Vivienda San Pedro at (415) 487-9203; or the Asian Law Caucus at (415) 896-1701.

S.F. Treasurer and Tax Collector

Fare Increase Unfair

Media and Muni Riders:

I will be sending you a separate Chinese/English petition against Muni's unfair fare increases and service reduction.

Muni's proposal is particularly unfair to residents in the Southeast because before the T-line light rail was built, Muni agreed in writing to increase the #9X buses to the current seven days a week. Most of our passengers are low-income who need affordable public transportation.

If Muni proposes to charge much higher monthly premium pass rates for the express lines and passengers have to pay extra for transfers, it means our residents (only our three express lines have direct connection to Chinatown) will be the majority of the 27,000 daily express riders who must pay higher fares.

This is totally unfair to residents of our low-income and predominantly newer immigrant neighborhoods.

Chinatown merchants should support our petition efforts because if our current direct connections to Chinatown are interrupted, their businesses can be negatively affected, too.

My helpers are leaving copies of the bilingual petitions in Chinatown stores for supporters to sign.

Any San Francisco resident can sign this petition because we are asking Muni to curb its wastes and excesses and to find better alternatives to stop raising fares and reducing services for all residents in San Francisco.

So, I welcome supporters from all communities to sign this petition.

Thank you for your attention.
Marlene Tran, Spokesperson,
Visitacion Valley Asians Alliance



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50 RAYMOND AVENUE
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94134

(415) 467-4400

WWW.VVCC.ORG

1 AX (415) 467-3757

YES

I WANT TO HELP VISITACION VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER CONTINUE TO SERVE MY COMMUNITY!

JOIN US - WHY SHOULD YOU BECOME A MEMBER OF THE VISITACION VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER???

- Because we've had a base of community support since 1918
- Because we provide services for children and parents with childcare, early education and after school programs
- Because we support the growth and development of our community's youth, broadening their opportunities for success
- Because we provide our elders with a place to gather and enjoy a wide range of activities and hot meals daily.
- Because we provide a place for Resource Center for Seniors and Adults with Disabilities.
- Because we provide a whole range of services for our community: individual and family counseling, food distribution, safety programs, space for community meetings and events, the Grapevine News, ESL and Citizenship classes, and more
- Because we're neighbors helping neighbors who love our community and aspire to bring everyone together for our mutual benefit and enjoyment.

Visitacion Valley Community Center, Inc.

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McLaren Park News and Notes



New Projects for McLaren Park

by Betty Parshall

Several projects are "in the pipeline" for McLaren Park. It is an excellent exercise in patience to continue contacting, negotiating, requesting and waiting for responses when some project or improvement is proposed for the park. We give thanks and appreciation to groups such as Friends of McLaren Park and Help McLaren Park for their dedication and persistence, and we also must acknowledge that in these tight money times park managers, gardeners and maintenance people are doing their best on short budgets and short staff.

The restrooms continue to be open seven days a week, and when one weekend they were not, there was quick response to park users' phone calls and e-mails. Remember, you can report maintenance problems and needs to: www.parkscan.org

The placement of green, blue and black waste containers requires study to determine placement, but it is hoped that they will soon be installed. The Department of the Environment wants the focus to be on green. Personally I hope picnicking people can focus on the use of all three bins; bottles, cans and bottle caps are frequently tossed around, aluminum trays of food are sometimes left on the tables, and tiny balloons and other party leftovers are a danger to animals and birds as well as messy to look at. Our gardeners shouldn't have to be janitors, cleaning up behind people who use the picnic areas.

There has been a go-ahead approval to install the new tabletops and benches at the group picnic area, so we may see installation in the next month or two. This project may be a record-breaker in time taken to accomplish, since the grant for the money was approved two years ago, and the material has been in storage for a heck of a long time.

On Saturday, April 11, the volunteer organization One Brick joined Help McLaren Park neighbors in planting and maintenance tasks at Yosemite Marsh. Help McLaren Park is a partner with the Neighborhood Parks Council, and thanks go to Charles and Trilce Farrugia for their leadership in getting neighbors together.

If you'd like to be part of this group and keep up with their activities, go to: www.helpmclarenpark.weebly.com for more information and to sign up on their mailing list.

If you would like to see the Jerry Garcia Amphitheater hosting more events contact johnmclarenpark@aol.co to hook up with other people want to work at full booking of this fine venue.

Several people have recently asked me about Earth Day in the park. Sorry to report that the sponsoring organization, Nature in the City, decided not to have a 3rd Annual Earth Day here. The event encouraged more people from other parts of San Francisco to learn about this lightly used resource, and while I'm not taking an official survey, Hope and I do meet people exploring the park for the first time more frequently than a couple of years ago.

Join the Friends of McLaren Park on the third Saturday of the month at the Louis Sutter Roundhouse, 10 am to no later than Noon.



Trilce Farrugia attends to planting and maintenance in McLaren Park.

New Bills Address The Environment

by State Senator Leland Yee

When Earth Day celebration was started in 1970, environmentalism was not a broadly embraced movement, a minor concern in the political world. In the decades since, our awareness of the health of the world around us has vastly expanded, along with our understanding of the many threats that confront our natural environment. Now, with climate change already taking effect around the world, burying our heads in the sand is a luxury we can no longer afford.

Recycling a Great American Success

Recycling is one of the greatest environmental success stories, according to the National Solid Wastes Management Association (NSWMA) in Washington, D.C. Since 1980, the amount of solid waste that Americans recycle has jumped from around 10 percent to more than 33 percent. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that Americans recycled 63 million tons of waste in 2007 alone.

In more than 8,600 communities, Americans can take advantage of curbside recycling, where recyclables are placed in special bins and picked up by the local garbage collector. America's solid waste industry pioneered "single-stream recycling," where everything—metal cans, glass and plastic bottles, newspaper and cardboard—goes into one bin to make the collection process as easy as possible. As a result, more Americans now recycle household and workplace trash.

Keeping recyclables out of the waste stream accomplishes far more than saving space in your local landfill. Using recycled materials saves manufacturers money, resulting in lower prices for many consumer products. Recycling also conserves natural resources, saves tons of energy and reduces emissions that contribute to air pollution and climate change.

Making new glassware from recycled materials takes 30 percent less energy than starting from new materials. Recycled paper products require 40 percent less energy than paper made from fresh lumber. And manufacturing plastic or aluminum products from recycled material adds up to enormous energy savings—a 75 percent reduction for plastic and up to 95 percent for aluminum cans.

Experts estimate that recycling 7 million tons of metal results in fewer greenhouse emissions, equivalent to taking 5 million cars off the road for a year.

Recycling is a critical part of protecting our environment for future generations, and America's solid waste companies are major partners in helping communities increase the amount they recycle.

The industry continues to develop technology to make recycling easier. For example, it is building recycling facilities that use the latest automated scanning technology to make the sorting of materials faster and more efficient.

NAPS

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This year, I am authoring two bills to address environmental concerns. First and foremost is Senate Bill 535 which will allow vehicles such as plug-in hybrids to use the carpool lanes on California's highways. These vehicles produce far less greenhouse gases and consume much less fuel than the average car, and it is important that the state provide real incentives to support the purchase and use of these vehicles so that we may reduce our carbon footprint.

Senate Bill 300 seeks to provide greater oversight over the harpilot who oversee oil tankers in our waterways. After last year's Cosco Buscan oil spill in San Francisco Bay, it is my belief that more oversight is necessary to protect our Bay and put in place critical safety and training measures to prevent future tanker collisions and the potential for fuel spills.

Beyond the halls of the Capitol, there is still much work to be done. So in keeping with the spirit of the holiday, I joined my staff and hundreds of volunteers at Half Moon Bay State Beach Saturday April 25th in an effort to do my part for our environment. We all know that one part of our town that is strewn with litter, but all too often we pass it off as someone else's problem and walk right past. This reaction is understandable, but it must be overcome if we wish to see positive change. We must not view this as a chore, but as another aspect of being a good citizen, something that keeps us invested in our community that is larger than simply us.

Now more than ever is the time for us to realize that all of our actions have consequences, and if

we do not tread carefully, we could leave a world much harsher and far less beautiful for the next generation. Recently, the US Department of the Interior held a hearing at the University of California San Francisco regarding the potential for oil drilling off of the California coast. The hearing is part of an information gathering effort by President Barack Obama's administration as it considers reversing an executive order issued last August by former President Bush to lift the federal legislative moratorium that since 1981 had been protecting California's coast and beaches from oil spills.

As an Assemblymember in 2005, I authored and passed Assembly Joint Resolution 14—state legislation opposing all federal efforts to lift the moratorium.

More recently, I joined with many Californians in calling for our new president to reverse this destructive order. It is just this sort of effort that every Californian can undertake in our collective work to protect and reclaim our environment.

I thank all the volunteers for participating in this year's Earth Day celebration and hope that we recommit ourselves to a cleaner, greener world.

Please join me for discussions about the environment, state budget, the current legislative session and issues of local importance to you at my Complementary Pancake Breakfast and Town Hall Meeting this Saturday May 2nd from 9:30 a.m. -11:30 a.m. at the Armenian-American Day School, 825 Brotherhood Way, San Francisco, CA. RSVP as soon as possible to 415-557-7857.

Visitacion Valley History Project

Celebrating the Work of a Famed Architect

by Betty Parshall

About 60+ people gathered at St. James Presbyterian Church on Sunday, April 19 to hear Mark Wilson's presentation with slides about Julia Morgan, famed American architect who was the architect for the church that was completed and dedicated in 1923. Mr. Wilson is the author of Julia Morgan: Architect of Beauty, which is his third book on Bay Area architecture. He has studied architecture and has written and lectured about Julia Morgan for more than 30 years. He teaches art history at Santa Rosa Community College, and a course on Morgan, and one on Bernard Maybeck, at UC Berkeley Extension.

For those unfamiliar with the story, a group of people started a Sunday school in Visitacion Valley in 1906. The response from the adults of the community was positive enough to lead to the decision to build a Presbyterian church in the Valley, and so in 1906 a small church was built on the front of the lot at 240 Leland Ave. In 1908 a gym was constructed behind the church to provide recreation for the youth.

By 1920 the congregation had grown to the point that the decision was made to build a larger church on the same site. The original building was moved and is still in use as a residence today. Julia Morgan was engaged as architect for the project and the new building was completed and dedicated in April, 1923. The beautiful stained glass window depicting "The Sower" from one of Jesus' parables was found in a deserted church in a ghost town somewhere in Nevada.

Mr. Wilson told the story of Morgan's education and her persistence in getting her education and license to practice as an architect at a time when architecture was seen as a strictly male profession. He described her dedication to women's rights and her insistence when designing buildings for women that the rooms provide adequate and comfortable living space, as exemplified in the San Francisco YWCA. The slides depicted her talent in designing homes and other buildings that used natural materials around the site, and her meticulous attention to what the building owners wanted.

Perhaps one of the most unusual homes in this regard is the house that contains not one right angle. The owner believed that ghosts could gather in 90 degree angles, so required that none be in her home, and Morgan was able to comply with this and produce an aesthetically pleasing and comfortable house at the same time.

One of the slides shown was the clock tower at Mills College, designed by Morgan in 1903. Her skill included the use of reinforced concrete, and the tower is the first construction utilizing the concrete in a building west of the Mississippi (1903).

The audience enjoyed the lecture and slides, followed by a lively question and answer session with the author. All then proceeded to the church social hall to enjoy the historical display and have a piece of anniversary cake, since the 103rd anniversary of the formation of the church was also being celebrated.

A pleasant surprise for the congregation was the presentation of a certificate of congratulations and thanks to the church for its continuing service to the community, which was obtained by Assemblywoman Fiona Ma.

The program was co-sponsored by the Visitacion Valley History Project and the San Francisco Friends of the Library. Proceeds have been shared with the church and our neighborhood library fund.

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Justyna is a local resident who lives in Visitation Valley. She would guard your house value as much as treating it as her own. Justyna speaks fluent Chinese (Cantonese, Mandarin and Shanghaiese).



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Joe Leland around the neighborhood

***Sidewalk Sale:** The Leland Ave merchants will be participating in the annual Citywide Sidewalk Sale Event, to be held Saturday May 16th from 10am to 2pm. The event is sponsored by San Francisco Small Business Commission and organized locally by VVBOOM. The goal of the event is bring merchants and residents closer together by activating the public space. Show your merchants how much you love them. Shop Locally! For more information contact Nick Wolff, VVBOOM corridor manager par excellence.415-585-2338/nwolff@vvboom.org

***It's APAH Month!:** (Wikipedia): Asian - Pacific American Heritage Month (APAHM) is celebrated in May to commemorate the contributions of people of Asian and Pacific Islander descent in the United States. Congress passed a joint Congressional Resolution in 1978 to commemorate Asian American Heritage Week during the first week of May. This date was chosen because two important anniversaries occurred during this time: the arrival of the first Japanese immigrants in America on May 7, 1843 and the completion of the transcontinental railroad (by many Chinese laborers) on May 10, 1869. Congress later voted to expand it from a week long to a month long celebration. Be sure to support Vis Valley's numerous Asian - Pacific American merchants this month, especially during the Leland Ave Sidewalk Sale (see above)! After you're done shopping in the hood, check out the 5th annual Asian Heritage Street Celebration also on Saturday, May 16, 2009. Held in front of the Asian Art Museum. 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. www.asianfairsf.com

***Got Books? Want Books?:** Once again, the Visitacion Valley History Project will be selling used books during the May 16th Sidewalk Sale (again, see above) to help raise funds for our new branch library. Your donation of materials makes it all possible. Your old books are needed and will be greatly appreciated by the next owner. Reuse at its best! Bring your bags or boxes down to JOE Leland Coffee Shop, 28 Leland Ave. Mon-Sat before 2pm and receive a free cup of hot tea in exchange!

***Visit the Cal Academy of Sciences for Free!:** Visit the California Academy of Sciences - the only place on the planet with an aquarium, a planetarium, a natural history museum, and a 4-story rainforest all under one roof. Free admission is available for San Francisco residents in each zip code during designated dates. Excelsior, Ingleside, Bayview/Hunter's Point, Visitacion Valley 94112, 94134, 94124 May 22, 23, 24, 2009. Proof of Residency Required. Check out <http://www.calacademy.org/visit/> or call 415-379-8000 for more information.

***# 4:** The 4th Annual Leland Ave Street Fair is scheduled for Sunday September 27, 2009. Mark your calendars You wouldn't want to miss The Valley's biggest event of the year, right?

***Zen Saying the Month:** "You can observe a lot by just watching" (Yogi Berra)

Book Review

How to Protect Your Kids from the Recession

Whether you've been hit hard by the recession or not, kids and families may be reeling from the effects of the troubled times without a frame of reference for how tough it is out there.

Arun Abey, former investment strategist and author of the book *How Much is Enough*, from Greenleaf Book Group Press (www.howmuchisenough.net), believes that parents don't just need to teach their kids about finances, but also about the relationship between money and quality of life.

"It's not easy to say that money isn't everything in a recession, but it isn't," Abey said. "It's so easy to fall into the trap of making sure your kids understand the importance of making a good living financially, but if we leave out the part about lasting fulfillment in their careers, we're shortchanging them. It leads to the avacious corporate behavior that has been ram-

pant in recent years where people pursue ever more money with no sense of meaning or perspective."

Still, Abey also believes we need to get our kids smart about finances early to help protect them now and in the future. To that end, he offers some basic tips for families who want to get themselves - and their kids - smart now about financial matters.

***Don't Let Money Be Invisible -** Working-class families during the Great Depression routinely set jars out in full view of the family marked "Rent," "Food," "Clothes," and so on, showing everyone where the money went. Today, money comes out of ATMs, and is spent via debit cards and credit cards - invisible to kids as to where it comes from and where it goes. Kids lack a frame of reference.

***Give Kids Responsibility for Spending -** One of the ways to get kids smart fast is to present a situation in which real consequences exist, by placing them in charge of their discretionary spending. If they receive an allowance, then parents should require their kids

Teaching Kids to Accept Being Different

Children don't have the same filter between their brains and their mouths that adults do, and if you need evidence of that, just think back to any moment of embarrassment caused by your child's ultrahonesty.

It's one thing for an adult to see someone who is obese and think, "he's fat," but children are more than likely to point and say in a loud, non-indoor voice, "Wow, Mommy, he's fat!"

Children are more attuned to differences, both in physical stature and behavior, and have a tendency to point them out in other children, causing distress and anxiety. However, according to at least one expert, it is not only possible to teach them to be more accepting, but it's also possible to condition those who are different to accept themselves, as well.

Kari Kay, author of *Floppy Cat*, from the Floppy Cat Company (www.floppycat.com) based her children's book on the life of her real cat, Floppy, who was born with a balance problem that turned his normal feline gait into a staccato strut, making every step a challenge. She is using his trials as a metaphor for the differences children are prone to spot.

"Floppy was born with very little balance control which made his daily life very difficult," Kay said. "He had two other siblings that were born with the same challenges. They laid around most of the day letting their challenges get the best of them, while Floppy reacted dif-

ferently. He spent his days taking on one adventure after another. Rarely did you see Floppy in one place for very long. Floppy enjoyed his life. Never letting his challenges stand in his way of having fun."

Her tips for children include: ***Keep your head high at all times -** No matter your situation, always have faith that being yourself is more than enough to making the most out of life.

***Don't let challenges hold you back from doing or getting what you want -** Life isn't always going to be easy, but that doesn't mean you should let its challenges hold you back. Facing them with a smile can be your strength!

***Figure out what you want and go for it and be willing to learn new things -** It's sometimes easier knowing what you don't want than what you do want, but once you've figured it out, you should be more like Floppy, who didn't let anything stand in his way.

***Believe in yourself!** Use your uniqueness to move forward in life - Being different isn't a burden, but rather, it's a gift. Use it to your advantage instead of letting it hold you back. Your ability to overcome adversity will inspire everyone around you.

***Stay positive!** Look for the good in every situation - Even at its worst, life can still have its good points, if we only look for them. Floppy wouldn't have had to look far to find doom and gloom, but instead - no matter what - he could always see the good in every situation.

to map out the money they have coming and also where it goes. Seeing it on paper or in a computer chart will give them a sense of reality about their money, and also build healthy financial habits they will cling to in later life.

***Teach the Power of Investment -** A typical method parents use to get kids interested in saving money is to help them set up a savings account. The part that is often left out regard the value of that investment. Parents should spell it out. For example, a simple investment of \$100 in a basic savings account can result in a balance of \$12,000 after 20 years. If they invest that same \$100 in a bond or a stock that returns merely 6 percent a year, that balance grows to \$42,000-plus.

***For Love or Money? -** Most affluent families try to direct their children toward high-earning careers, such as medicine, high finance or business management. Working class families stress education, and also try to drive their kids toward high-status career paths in an effort to help them get out of the pattern of hopelessness and disillusionment that characterizes many of their childhoods. However, there is an alternative method, which directs children toward career paths that stress their passions, what they love to do. This path stresses lasting fulfillment over financial rewards, even though, in many cases, people wind up with both by following this path. Ask your kids what they are passionate about and what they are good at. The answers to those questions will lead to a happier life and a better quality of life than one centered on the pursuit of the almighty dollar.

"I can't think of a more important moment in America's history to teach these lessons," Abey said. "The current financial crisis, caused equally by reckless bankers as well as uninformed consumers, underscores the need for this kind of education and understanding. It's critical not just for mom and dad, but for the whole family, if future generations have a hope of being spared the pitfalls that led to today's crisis."

Cooking Corner

Chili Con Chianti

2 tablespoons olive oil; 1 small onion, diced; 1 red bell pepper, diced; 1 yellow bell pepper, diced; 1 green bell pepper, diced; 1 large garlic clove, minced; 1 pound ground beef; 1 tablespoon chili powder; 1 tablespoon ground cumin; 1 1/2 teaspoons salt; 1 28-ounce can diced tomatoes; 1 16-ounce can red kidney beans, drained and rinsed; 1/2 cup Carlo Rossi Chianti; 1/2 teaspoon hot pepper sauce; 1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese.

In 4-quart saucepan over medium heat, heat 2 tablespoons oil; add onions, bell peppers and garlic. Cook until vegetables are tender-crisp, stirring occasionally.

With slotted spoon, remove vegetables and set aside. In drippings remaining in skillet over medium-high heat, cook ground beef until well browned on all sides, stirring frequently.

Stir in chili powder, ground cumin and salt; cook 1 minute. Add cooked vegetables, tomatoes, red kidney beans, Carlo Rossi Chianti and hot pepper sauce.

Over high heat, heat to boiling. Reduce heat to low, cover and simmer 20 minutes, stirring occasionally. To serve, top with shredded cheddar cheese. Serves 6.

NAPS

Crossword Puzzle Solution

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What's News at the Center

by Molly Hassler, Family and Community Services Center

Hands On Literacy Workshop

Jumpstart and the Family and Community Services Center held a workshop for parents and children on March 25th to help parents learn to bring out their child's natural curiosity and develop early literacy. Dinner and childcare were provided.

This workshop was part of a seven session series of workshops with topics that address recommendations listed in the Kindergarten Standards. The goal is to provide families and caregivers some tips and strategies to help their child get ready for kindergarten. Additionally, bringing parents together allows them a chance to share some challenges and triumphs with other families.

All workshops are translated in to Spanish and Cantonese. Future workshops will be held weekly through May 6th. The topics of the seven workshops are: Emergent Literacy, Early Reading, Print Awareness, Early Writing, Phonemic Awareness, Vocabulary Building, and Celebration.

Cleaning Your Home the Safe and Green Way

David Lo from SFDPH came to show the approximately 15 families in attendance at a Parent Education Workshop on March 26 how to keep their house clean and safe without using products that are harmful to the environment. The workshop was conducted in three languages with the help of Jenny Sosa, who translated for the Spanish speaking parents and Jack Kwong who translated for the Cantonese speaking parents.

Mr. Lo suggests that we all throw out our bleach, Ajax, 409 and Windex. What are the alternatives? Environmentally safe cleaning products are available at Target, Walgreens and Safeway and they don't cost too much more than the non-green products. But Mr Lo suggests that we stop buying cleaning products all together and make our own. It sounded difficult at first, but he showed us that we probably already have environmentally safe ingredients in our homes. Borax, vinegar, lemons and hydrogen peroxide will serve us as well or better than conventional cleaning products, even bleach.

Many of the parents attending the workshop were concerned that "environmentally safe" means "doesn't really work." Not so says Mr. Lo! You can make drain cleaner with vinegar and baking soda that will work just as well as Drano. Even more importantly, when it goes down the drain, it won't pollute the Bay. Further, do you read ingredient labels? Many cleaning products have labels that read DANGER or CAUTION. When these words are on the label, the products are not safe around your children.

Mr Lo wanted to use the dry erase board to illustrate a point and he was handed a container of disinfecting wipes to clean it. Although it was somewhat ironic, Mr Lo was not amused. He asked the parents not to use these wipes ever. They not only contain chemicals, but they increase the amount of garbage that ends up in landfills. Use plain unscented soap and water to clean your kitchen counters and vinegar on a previously read newspaper like Sing Tao.

Family Field Trip

Fifteen families and four staff members went to the California Academy of Sciences in Golden Gate Park on March 28th. The Family and Community Services Center staff invested in family memberships for 15 families participating in center activities. These families had gone on prior field trips to the Academy of Sciences and have made visits there a part of their family routine. As the memberships come with a bonus Guest Pass, Family and Community Services Center was able borrow the Guest Passes and use them to take 15 additional families to see the fantastic new facility which reopened only six months ago.

If you go, do not miss the Living Roof, an open-air observation terrace that enables visitors to get a close-up look at the roof's lush canopy of plants. The view encompasses the densest concentration of native wildflowers in San Francisco. The expansive vista is also an ideal location for watching Northern California's birds, butterflies and insects. The Living Roof is accessible from the third floor of the Academy. There's also an elevator for those in need.

Free admission is available to visitors on the third Wednesday of every month, presented by Wachovia. Admission is on a first come, first served basis, and early arrival is recommended due to the likelihood of high demand.

Saturday Easter Egg Hunt

The staff at Family and Community Services Center are good friends with the Easter Bunny and were able to prevail upon him to come one day early to Vis Valley. On Saturday, April 11th, while the children and families did Arts & Crafts projects, the Easter Bunny hid eggs in the Visitacion Valley Greenway. Thank you to Wen Chin Chen of the Visitacion Valley Branch Library, Mary Zhu and Liliana Metz of Jumpstart, Atim Boykin-Chenzira of Florence Crittenton Services, our wonderful volunteers, Dixie Cottros, Christine Wong, Maria Rios and Dale Davis without whom the Easter Bunny would have been just another silly old rabbit!

Safety Stressed at First Annual Festival

by Kevin Blackwell

The first annual 10th District Safety Festival on March 21 in the Bayview was an extremely warm and wonderful event highlighting programs and entities around the District, with a very special emphasis on public safety.

Jim Martin, Community Safety Organizer, along with the Bayview Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), opened up the entire facility and allowed residents and guests from all over San Francisco to access available information and resources in the community.

Visitacion Valley was well represented at this event, as the Visitacion Valley Community Center highlighted its unique style of community servitude, while



supporting 10th district neighbors and making a strong commitment of continued service to children, youth, and families of the Visitacion Valley community.

Street Violence Presentation Makes Impact on Community

by Kevin Blackwell

In making a difference in Visitacion Valley, the Visitacion Valley Community Response Network (VVCRN) in collaboration with the S.F. District Attorney's Office and the Department of Public Health (DPH), brought the workshop series Shots Fired to the Heritage Home Community Room on April 7.

VVCRN is a group of dedicated young men and women who engage youth and families around the issues of violence in our neighborhoods and on the streets. They partner with the Visitacion Valley Peacemakers, Polly's Family Resource Center and the WAY Program Mentorship Program; Samoan Community Development Center (SCDC); Together United Re-committed Forever (TURF); and the Visitacion Valley Community Center (VVCC) where the commitment is

strong efforts are noteworthy and the goals are to challenge the traumatic affects of violence in the Visitacion Valley community.

Dr. Andre R. Campbell, chief surgeon at S.F. General Hospital made a presentation starting with a short film shot in Oakland by well known local producer and director Kevin Epps titled Survivors, A Documentary, which showed a side of street violence where young men (mostly African American males) are being shot, maimed, and murdered. The real life epic stories of the young men in the movie show how they live with violence everyday. A presentation titled Trauma (Emergency) goes inside the Emergency Room of S.F. General with actual footage of he and a team of doctors perform life saving emergency operations on individuals victimized by gunshots, stabbings, and

other types of trauma where the line of life and death meet.

Assistant DA Mark Guillory's presentation described inner workings of the S.F. District Attorney's Office and how he as a prosecutor dealt with individuals who commit crimes in San Francisco. He covered a variety of topics from victims of violent crime to the prosecution of those who use guns in the City. Most interesting was a discussion on the use and abuse of technology (cell phones, Facebook and MySpace) in general in the initiation of threats to individuals. Guillory gave the community an overview of how the tracking of these particular technological sources could lead to arrest, prosecution, and conviction for openly threatening someone. To find out about the VVCRN and what they do, call (415) 467-6396.

Questionable Fate for Vintage Visitacion Valley Building

by Russel Morine

In the year 1900, San Francisco's population was just under 345,000. Mayor James Phelan had just outlawed cemeteries within the City limits. Walter Schlage was still an employee of the Western Electric Company; the company to bear his name was two decades into the future.

In the year 1900, Visitacion Valley was more pasture then neighborhood. A sleepy collection of family farms, dairies, and homesteads dotted the open landscape. The (dirt) roads and blocks that we know today were laid, but it would take another generation before the fine-grained fabric of homes and paved streets could fully develop.

City records indicate that the house located at 318 Arleta Ave. was built in 1900. The house still stands today, but its looks a bit run down. The paint has faded and peeled, weeds sprout from cracks in the sidewalk, and a water department 'shut off' notice is pasted on a boarded up window. From the outside it looks as if 318 Arleta Ave. might not last another year let alone another century.

Last month, the Grapevine printed a list of run down properties that appeared dilapidated to the point of abandonment. 318 Arleta Ave (316 Arleta Ave. was listed last month but 318 Arleta Ave. is the official address. 316 is a secondary unit) was such a property. On a tip from a dedicated Grapevine reader, more of the story can now be revealed.

The unassuming two story farmhouse was previous owned by the Frank Quinones Living Trust. The property was sold in August of 2007 for the princely sum of \$1,029,500 to a Mr. Sergio Iantorno. Mr. Iantorno is a real estate speculator and owner of Realty West, a firm that is classified as a "land sub divider" company. Mr. Iantorno has a colorful reputation. A Google search of his name reveals that he is listed as one of the "Bay Area's 45 Worst Slumlords." The million dollar plus sales price may seem stratospheric for this quiet block of Visitacion Valley if not for the fact that 318 Arleta Ave. sits on a 7,500 square foot lot. This is three times the size of the standard 2,500 square foot lot. There are two structures on the lot. The old farmhouse, which sits dead center on the property, and a small detached garage to its left. The right side of the lot is vacant.

In February of 2008, a Department of Building Inspection permit was issued to do interiors remodeling, enclose all property line windows, modify stairs and a rear deck, and relocate the entry door to "unit #316." The new owner later applied to subdivide the 7,500 square foot lot into three 2,500 square foot lots on November 11, 2008. On December 31, 2008 a permit was filed to demolish the garage on the left side of the property. As of April 2009, no permits or plans have been posted for a replacement structure



Vintage Visitacion Valley building has become a mystery on Arleta Avenue.

on this lot but it is likely that it will be a new single family home. Also on December 31, 2008 permits were submitted to construct a new two story single family house on the newly created lot to the right of 318 Arleta Ave (see New Home at 314 Arleta Ave. article).

The reason 318 Arleta Ave. was singled out last month was due to its outward appearance. Before the building was sold, it was clearly run down, but still very much was habitable. After the property was sold, 318 Arleta Ave. went from cosmetically challenged yet livable to a gutted uninhabitable shell. Today, bare walls striped down to the studs can clearly be seen through the open windows.

Given the fact that significant improvements are planned for the adjacent lots, a fair question to ask: What will happen to 318 Arleta Ave.? Will it be totally remodeled or is it being willfully neglected to justify a demolition? Only the owner can answer those questions, but a few facts should be considered until the community knows for certain. First, the interior was gutted down to the studs after purchase, but nothing has happened since. This may well be part of the "interior remodel" listed on the February 2008 permit. However, it's been well over a year. Plenty of time to begin even the most extensive rehab. Secondly, several windows have been removed or intentionally left open leaving the building exposed to the elements and vandalism. Enclosing the property line windows is listed on the 2008 permit, but removing the windows well before a remodel begins is suspect. The longer the building is exposed to the elements, the greater the rehabilitate cost when (or if) the time comes. Lastly, none of the items listed on the February 2008 permit were started indicating that even minor repairs that might stabilize the building are unlikely.

Why would a property owner allow their investment to decay by deferring upkeep? The answer lies part in fact and part in speculation. Fact: It's more profitable to demolish a run down building and build a new one from the ground up. Fact: Demolishing a habitable residential building is

next to impossible in San Francisco because the City believes that in most cases existing buildings are more affordable than brand new ones. Fact: The one exception to demolishing a residential building is when the structure is physically unsafe and structurally unsound. Fact: The longer a building is neglected, the better chance there is of it being permitted for demolition. Speculation: The new owners of 318 Arleta Ave. are willfully neglecting upkeep to justify a legal demolition thus increasing their profits margins upon resale.

To be fair, there is no evidence to suggest that the new owner of 318 Arleta Ave. have any intentions to demolish the building or that they are willfully neglecting it. They could simply be caught up in the banking financial crisis or governmental red tape. Still, one has to accept that from a real estate speculation point of view, it would most profitable to demolish this building and replace it with a new one. That may seem counter intuitive, but consider that most of the cost is of a home in San Francisco is tied to the land. Currently the land under 318 Arleta is worth more then the building.

So, the question is this. What are the plans for 318 Arleta Ave.? Will it be restored or will it be demolished? As one of the oldest homes in the neighborhood, a strong consideration must be given to retaining it intact and restored. This will be a costly proposition for the owner, but restoration is the right thing to do for the neighborhood. When we callously demolish the past, we all lose a part of our heritage. What happens next is up to the community. Someone or group must proactively open a dialogue with the property owners before 318 Arleta Ave. is lost or altered beyond recognition. Lingering concerns should be voiced to the City departments with oversight on such matters, namely the Planning Department, Building Inspection Department, and Supervisor Maxwell's Office. Only by being vigilant can we ensure that 318 Arleta Ave. survives for another century.

Buildings with Style In Visitacion Valley

by Russel Morine

Over the next few months the Grapevine will present this new feature *Buildings with Style* spotlighting Visitacion Valley buildings that exhibit notable architectural and stylistic characteristics. This month we feature the iconic California Bungalow and a San Francisco original, The Marina.

California Bungalow

The California Bungalow owes its existence to a style of housing common to the Bengal region of the Indian / Bangladesh Subcontinent. The word "bungalow" is derived from the Hindustani word "bangla" which translates to "a house in the Bengal style". The "bangla" incorporated local building materials for construction and included features that were designed make the most of the region's humid subtropical climate. The small detached single story structures facilitated air circulation by placing windows on all sides. Their low pitched roofs overhung the building face shading exterior walls while the thick thatched roofing material helped to control interior temperature fluctuations. The defining feature of the "bangla" was its wide veranda (porch) that provided shelter during heavy rains as well as a sitting area to capture breezes during hot summers. The porch was a year round extension of the interior living space. During the late 1800s, the "bangla" style was adapted by colonial Britons as vacation / summer houses along coastal resorts. The bungalow was born.

The bungalow was introduced to America near the turn of the 20th century and is typified by similar features as the original but often includes a modest second story. Bungalows became wildly popular. They were simple and affordable to constructed yet highly customizable. This customization was a hallmark of the "Arts and Crafts" movement of which bungalows have a strong association. Because of their countless variations on a theme, bungalows played a major roll in the early 1900s mail order homes phenomenon. As the bungalow spread across the continent they were adapted to local building materials and regional preference. For example, the California Bungalow



California Bungalow (top and center) and The Marina style homes in the Valley.

was most often clad in wood, stone-work, and stucco while the Chicago Bungalow was generally clad in brick. The Milwaukee Bungalow is notable for its second story street facing gable end (the California Bungalow preferred facing the gable end to the side).

Unfortunately there aren't many hungalows in Visitacion Valley. By the time our neighborhood was experiencing major population growth in the late 1920s, the 25x100 lot had become the standard making it impractical to construct these

small detached homes. Also mail order homes were no longer economical as customization gave way to standardization. Visitacion Valley's best example of a bungalow is located on the first block of Raymond Ave. This home has the classic features such as the low pitched overhanging roof and open porch. Another fine example can be found on the 100 block of Peabody St. This home has the right proportions and features but appears to have been expanded to include a partial second story and a garage.

Although not true bungalows (they lack the prominent porch) nearly every home along McDonald Ave exhibit bungalowoid features.

The Marina

Even those with only a passing interest in local building styles can easily identify The Marina. This stucco clad residential building is defined by its bowed front façade that is lined by a bay of windows (usually four or five). Most Marina style homes have their front doors located on the second floor, accessed by exterior stairs along one side of the building. The garage door is often set back from the property line in a shallow alcove. A secondary entry to the garage is generally located in this recess. Roofs are flat, but the roofline will vary greatly from building to building. The Marina may have a standardized form but the street face varies greatly by clever variation of minor exterior details. Add a row of clay roof tiles The Marina becomes a "Spanish Revival". Incorporate geometric embellishments, the building becomes "Art Deco". Strip away all and it becomes "Modern".

The interior layout of The Marina is noteworthy because it dedicates the entire front of the building to the shared rooms of the house (living room / dining room.) The private rooms (bedrooms) are forced to the rear with kitchens and baths in the middle. Although designed to fit on long and narrow lots, The Marina can also be detached on both sides if the lot happens to be wider than 25 feet. The Marina located on the 400 block of Blanken Ave is detached and incorporates a shallow bay window on one side.

Yes, The Marina did originate in the Marina District. The style emerged shortly after the demolition of the 1915 Pan Pacific Exposition fairgrounds left vast acres of the Marina District available for new home construction. The Marina filled the need and was quickly adopted throughout the city as a simple and efficient design. The Marina style not only originated in San Francisco it is rarely if every found outside of the immediate region.

It's not difficult to find Marina style buildings in Visitacion Valley. The first block of Desmond St has five buildings that illustrate how simple exterior changes influence the entire block face. The first block of Cora St. has three interesting examples. Several of the newer homes along the 100 block of Delta St show the Marina influence with their bowed windows.

Next Month: The Junior Five

More Than \$1 Billion Capital Investments For Job Creation

Mayor Newsom on Apr. 23 announced that San Francisco's enterprise departments plan for over \$1 billion for infrastructure projects that are already underway or will begin in the coming year, which will create or preserve thousands of jobs. These investments will be in addition to hundreds of millions in federal stimulus funding the City expects to receive during the coming year.

The Mayor issued his proposed budget for enterprise departments on May 1. The enterprise departments of the City and County of San Francisco include the San Francisco International Airport (SFO), the Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA), the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and the Port of San Francisco (Port). Enterprise departments do not receive money from the City's General Fund. Much of their funding will center on infrastructure related projects with particular focus on economic recovery and job creation.

The MTA: The federal stimulus package provides an initial allocation of \$67M to the MTA, which is the largest transit agency allocation in the region. It will be used to fund a dozen "shovel ready" projects designed to rehabilitate, update and renew transit vehicles, facilities and vital systems as well as to improve customer convenience features. In addition to the federal stimulus funding, the SFMTA's 10-year capital plan includes over 300 projects. MTA plans to spend approximately \$335M on infrastructure projects during FY 2010, creating and retaining an estimated 10,000 jobs.

The Port: The Port has \$161 million worth of new capital projects that will get underway in 2009. Those projects will create 1,161 jobs and will also yield future economic returns by revitalizing our waterfront. Upcoming projects include: construction of the new Cruise Terminal; redevelopment of Pies 19 or 23; the Backlands/ Eco-Industrial Park; the Brannan Street Wharf

Park; Blue-Greenway Parks; Pier 43.5 Promenade Park; Dilapidated Pile and Wharf Removal; and Pier 50 Repairs.

The Airport: The Airport's budget includes \$444.6 million in infrastructure projects that are currently underway or will begin in the coming year. These projects will create 3,385 jobs. During the next 5 years, the Airport plans a total of \$882 million in capital projects, creating 6,360 jobs.

Upcoming airport capital projects include:

*Terminal 2/Boarding Area D Renovation Project: \$365.7 million; 2,758 total jobs

*Explosive Detection Systems Infrastructure Project: \$17.3 million; 40 total jobs

*Runway 28R-10L Overlay and Reconstruction Project: \$16.5 million; 90 total jobs

*Pre-Conditioned Air Project: \$6.7 million; 32 total jobs

*Energy Efficiency Projects (Partnership with Public Utilities Commission): \$37.6 million; 271 total jobs

*Roadway Viaduct Improvement Project, 194 total jobs

The PUC: Over the next 10 years, the PUC will create 63,525 jobs through infrastructure projects. Over the next five years, the \$4.4 billion Water System Improvement Program alone is estimated to create 28,000 jobs and 10.4 million "craft hours" for electricians, plumbers, laborers, heavy equipment operators and other building and construction trades.

The Sewer System Master Plan involves projects to rebuild the PUC's sewer system and treatment plants and solar energy and renewable power projects. This will create an additional 35,000 jobs between now and 2019.

A New Home for 314 Arleta Avenue?



by Russel Morine

A new single family home has been proposed for a vacant lot on the 300 Block of Arleta Ave. The blueprints (which were drawn up by the same firm that designed the building currently under construction at Blanken Ave. and Bayshore Blvd.) depicts a modest two story house that is in scale with the other homes on block face. Yet, one might question some elements of the interior floor plan layout.

The ground floor is configured in such a manner that allows for the easy addition of a in-law unit,

which based upon zoning, would be illegal. The ground floor includes a bedroom, a full bathroom, and family room behind a single car garage.

No kitchen is depicted on the plans, but with creative construction techniques a conversion would be effortless. The upper floor has three bedrooms and two full bathrooms.

There is also an extremely large roof 850 square foot deck. The plans for 314 Arleta Ave. are in the final stages of approval. No word as to when construction will begin.

New Home Construction Rises in March

SACRAMENTO – New-home construction in California jumped sharply in March compared to February, which the California Building Industry Association said was a clear sign that the homebuyer tax credit enacted in the beginning of March is helping to clear out inventory and generate new-home construction.

According to statistics compiled by the Construction Industry Research Board, 3,317 permits were pulled throughout California during the month of March, down 31 percent when compared to the same month a year ago but up 39 percent from February.

Robert Rivinius, CBIA's President and CEO, said the substantial increase in production over February indicates that builders are gaining confidence due to increased sales generated by the tax credit, but said that more needs to be done to keep the momentum going.

"Our elected officials took a great first step in enacting the homebuyer tax credit earlier this year, for which we are very grateful," Rivinius said. "It's having the desired effect of stimulating homebuying, which in turn will generate construction meaning tax

revenues for the state and local government, while putting people back to work.

"But the allocated funds for the credit are being rapidly absorbed, which is why we believe a second round of the tax credit to extend it further would be extremely helpful in keeping the momentum going and reinvigorating the overall economy."

Rivinius cited reports from the Franchise Tax Board saying one-third of the \$100 million allocated for the tax credit had already been applied for in the first six weeks since being enacted.

In March, single-family permits totaled 1,790, down 43 percent when compared to March 2008, but up 37 percent from February. Multifamily permits totaled 1,572, down 10 percent from the same month a year ago, but up 41 percent from February.

CIRB is now forecasting permits will be pulled for just 44,400 total units in 2009, which would be by far the lowest total on record, down 31 percent from the record-low 64,752 units produced in 2008. That forecast could go up, however, as new homebuyers re-enter the market.

El Dorado Elementary School Happenings

This has been a busy school year for sure but somehow April has seemed like the busiest month so far. We started with a literacy event on April 2nd, took a spring break, celebrated earth day, took our state tests and celebrated Gay Pride month. How did we do all that in April? Read on, reader!



The Super Gigantic Fun and Fabulous Storytelling Event

We attracted quite a crowd with food, catered by Nayrit Taqueria on Leland Avenue. Excitement mounted to match the proportions of the name of the event. It was the beginning of a fabulously fun evening. In fact, El Dorado's Nutrition Coordinator, said, "It was fabulous to see our kids excited, to see healthy foods, to see our kids perform!"

After enjoying a meal together students and families were invited to spend time completing several different hands-on activities including mask making, mad libs, listening to a story followed by a food tasting, and storytelling cards. First graders then provided some live entertainment in the form of a readers theater of Little Red Ridinghood and drama teacher, Mr. Peter, regaled the crowd with his own vibrant storytelling. The crowd broke up after a few raffle prizes were awarded and words of thanks were shared. Parents, students, and teachers reflected that the event is a keeper. We look forward to making it bigger and better and involving more parents and the community in the activities.

School Beautification

School Beautification is an on-going project at El Dorado. This year started off with a bang when San Francisco School Volunteers (SFSV) arrived and began painting hallways and benches and doing some gardening. On that day early in September, in addition to SFSV, another group of community volunteers from City Church of San Francisco were present. And, since that day, there have been three more beautification work days. The work days were organized 3rd

grade teacher Laura Spiering and attended by City Church of San Francisco volunteers, as many as 65, as well as other community members including community gardeners Opal Essence and Erin McElroy. In honor of Earth Day, the fourth and culminating beautification work day, was held on Saturday, April 18th. On this day The City Church of San Francisco volunteers completed many project they had begun earlier. They spent time on campus working with families to paint the hallways and stairwells, complete murals (an El Dorado Eagle on the upper yard and a space scene in the front stairwell), plant much needed green in front of the school, and organize the science room supplies. At the other end of the school is a small garden. With the help of two delightful community gardeners, Opal and Erin, the garden is being transformed into an outdoor classroom. Plants donated by the Greenway and materials purchased with money from a grant are helping to make it all possible. Benches are being constructed and an irrigation system is being put into place. El Dorado would like to send a big thank you out to all out volunteers, their dedication, talent,



El Dorado Students Become Visitacion Valley Rockers



by Marisa Martinez

Little Kids Rock donated the guitars and these hard working students practice guitars on their own time. They call themselves Visitacion Valley Rockers. Some are second year guitar students

and hours and hours of tireless work make our school a better place. We are so honored.

El Dorado Testing

El Dorado also prepared for the state wide tests. Bust instead of moans and groans this year we tried to pump our children up with chants and cheers. First graders led chants during morning intake while third grade teachers Laura Spiering, Megan Liebman, and Sarah O'Rourke, along with the help of other El Dorado Staff, put on a rally to pump the kids up about the test. Instead of fostering fear in our students about the test we rallied together to beat the test maker. Staff and parents helped the kids by donating healthy snacks, fruits, and vegetables during the testing weeks. One fifth grader advised "Get a good nights rest, eat breakfast, and get to school on time." Test makers have something to be scared of now! Great job El Dorado.

Gay Pride

It's okay to be different! On May 1st El Dorado Elementary decorated our classroom doors to promote respect in our LGBTQ community. There was a parade around the school where student shared ways to promote diversity and love in our own community. Afterward students reflected on the messages and themes of the doors. El Dorado wanted to celebrate the contribution of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning community and applaud the movement and their achievements to date. Please check out the school health website at healthiersf.org and click on Support Services for LGBTQ youth for more information and resources.

and alums of El Dorado. They all will be performing at El Dorado and beyond! Pictured are: Back row: Ms. Martinez, Gregory, Lenise, Elijah, Nas, Sarah, Wenki, Front row: Sandra, Patty, Tyiesa, Leotis, Duchman.

Legislative Update For District 10

***Fair Lending Working Group:** The Board of Supervisors have passed a resolution endorsing the findings and recommendations of the Fair Lending Working Group, a panel of experts brought together to advise policy makers on the growing home mortgage crisis in San Francisco. The Working Group, established by legislation sponsored by Supervisor Sophie Maxwell, was comprised of industry, community, and City representatives. The group was charged with researching and recommending responses to the mortgage foreclosure crisis and convened numerous times during 2008 to develop a set of remedies for the growing problem. The Fair Lending Working Group's final report suggests a number of strategies, including: 1) Preserving homeownership by strengthening financial counseling programs and through better enforcement of existing State foreclosure laws. 2) Confronting predatory lending practices, which create financial challenges for families who are victimized by them. 3) Bolstering and enforcing tenants' rights laws to reduce impacts on renters during foreclosure procedures.

***Home Improvement District:** Supervisor Maxwell has introduced a resolution calling for the development of a "green" home improvement district along Bayshore Boulevard in the Bayview Hunters Point neighborhood. This work may involve modified land use controls for the corridor, areaspecific design guidelines, and a business attraction plan that would help augment and formalize the cluster of home improvement related activities currently located along Bayshore Boulevard. With the recent announcement that Lowe's is moving forward toward a lease agreement on the former Goodman's Lumber site, there is great interest in developing a more formalized corridor plan that can build upon the economic activity that an "anchor" tenant, such as Lowe's, will bring to the area.

***Potrero Power Plant:** The Board of Supervisors has unanimously passed legislation, introduced by Supervisor Maxwell, that opposes renewal of the water permit for Unit #3 at the Mirant Corporation's Potrero Power Plant. Unit #3 uses a process known as "once-through cooling", which takes in millions of gallons of water from San Francisco Bay each day. The water is later discharged back into the bay at temperatures higher than its normal state. This practice is proven to be harmful to aquatic life at both ends of the industrial cycle. Mirant's application to renew its water permit for Unit #3 is currently pending review at the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Supervisor Maxwell has also provided input on State legislation, now pending in Sacramento that may restrict the use of once-through cooling in certain facilities in California.

***Schlage Lock Factory Demolition:** On February 21, Supervisor Maxwell joined Assembly member Tom Ammiano, Redevelopment Director, Fred Blackwell, former employees of Schlage Lock Factory, local residents and business owners for a public visit of the Schlage Lock Factory before the buildings are torn down. (The old office building will be preserved.) Thanks to the neighborhood leadership and City staff, these long vacant buildings will soon give way to a vibrant mixed use community in Visitacion Valley.

***Portola Branch Library:** The beautiful new Portola Library at the corner of Bacon and Goettingen streets opened to great fanfare. An eager crowd of 800 plus enjoyed the local entertainment and speeches by Mayor Gavin Newsom, Supervisor Sophie Maxwell, Supervisor David Campos, Senator Mark Leno, City Librarian Luis Herrera and DPW Director Ed Reiskin. The new building is extremely popular with the residents and quickly fills up in the

afternoon with students from the many schools in the area. For information on the Portola Library please contact Marian Taylor at marian.taylor@friendsfpl.org.

***Visitacion Valley Branch Library:** Visitacion Valley is getting a new library. Demolition of the Super Fair Market at the site will begin soon and the project will break ground later this spring. The current branch will remain during construction of the new facility. If you want to get involved in a fun neighborhood project that will improve the community, please consider joining the Visitacion Valley Library Campaign committee and help raise funds for the furniture, fixtures, and equipment for the new branch. The Visitacion Valley Library Campaign held its kickoff informational meeting on March 31. The campaign committee will meet monthly.

***New Board of Supervisors:** On Thursday January 8, Supervisor Maxwell welcomed four new Supervisors who took the oath of office: Eric Mar in District 1, David Chiu in District 3, David Campos in District 9, and John Avalos in District 11. She congratulated Supervisors Carmen Chu, Sean Elsbernd and Ross Mirkarimi who were re-elected last November. Supervisor Maxwell is looking forward to working with her colleagues as they address issues challenging our City.

***2009 Presidential Inauguration:** Supervisor Maxwell had the honor and privilege of attending the 56th Presidential Inauguration in Washington, DC and witnessing the swearing in of the first African-American President of the United States. It was heart-warming to watch the San Francisco Girls and Boys Chorus performing in President Obama's inauguration ceremony. It was an honor to have them represent San Francisco on such a momentous occasion.

***Year of the Ox:** Supervisor Maxwell rode in the parade and enjoyed watching the happy faces of the people enjoying the festivities. A definite crowd favorite was the colorful and spectacular Dragon.

***Celebrating Black History Month:** On Friday, February 3, Supervisor Maxwell participated in the Black History month kickoff celebration sponsored by the Mayor's office and the African-American Historical and Cultural Society at City Hall. Also, the NAACP celebrates its 100th Anniversary this year. Black History month was established to bring attention to the contributions of people in history. African-Americans has made many contributions to our nation's rich history and most recently the election of the first African-American President of the United States. This is a time for all of us to embrace change and to become a change agent for our city and communities.

***The Board of Supervisors celebrated Black History Month** on February 10. Supervisor Maxwell honored Lanette Scott a graduate from the California Foster Care System for her tireless efforts to raise awareness and advocate for Honoring Emancipated Youth (HEY). Also, for her work to empower foster youths by providing strategies for success. Lanette is a success story. Not only did she graduate from the Foster Care System; she pursued her goal and graduated from the University of San Francisco with a BA in Policies. She is currently working with families and children by sharing her own story of success.

***Department on the Status of Women:** March is nationally recognized as Women's History Month. At the Board of Supervisors meeting, Supervisor Maxwell recognized three women who are courageous leaders in our community. Raquel Miller and Taneshia Miller are sisters who founded Ladies in Power, a non-profit organization passionate about impacting the lives of young women with a deep desire to strengthen, educate, build self-esteem and confidence. Its mission is to cultivate young women's highest potential. Contact information: ladiesinpower.sf@gmail.com

Open House for Valley in May at Hawkins Youth Clinic

An Open House on May 13 has been organized at Hawkins Youth Clinic for Wednesday, May 13 from 3 to 6 p.m. to invite youth and their families, residents, community leaders and other Visitacion Valley supporters to celebrate community with food, drink, games, prizes and entertainment. Hawkins Youth Clinic encourages people to attend, meet staff and tour the facility, gaining a greater understanding of what the clinic offers and how it can contribute to the work of others in the neighborhood.

Darryl Hawkins was a young man whose work as a social worker made an impact in Visitacion Valley. Mr. Hawkins died at a young age of a heart attack and to acknowledge him and his work, the Hawkins Health Clinic was named in his honor. The clinic serves the Visitacion Valley community and has been operating in different capacities for a number of years.

In the winter of 2007, Hawkins Youth Clinic became part of Community Health Programs for Youth, directed by Michael Baxter, MSW and Susan Obata, MD, a division of the Community Health Network of

the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

Now, located at 1099 Sunnysdale Ave. on the 3rd floor, the Hawkins Youth Clinic is focused on serving youth who are between 12 and 24 years of age and is open two afternoons per week; Tuesday and Wednesday. All services are provided at no cost to the youth and no health insurance coverage is necessary. They currently offer confidential reproductive health services in the form of pregnancy tests, STI screening, birth control, condoms, emergency contraception and pelvic exams and confidential mental health counseling. They are also working toward offering more primary care medical services, such as physicals and immunizations, in order to more thoroughly serve the needs of the youth in the community.

Hawkins Youth Clinic is now open two afternoons a week. Two youth outreach workers were recently hired from the community along with a social worker. The Clinic strives to connect with neighborhood youth and address major issues in the community, such as

trauma and the high incidence of sexually transmitted infections. It provides a welcoming environment where youth feel safe and supported and strive to become a more integrated member of the community.

The Clinic currently has eight staff members: Marie Walker, health worker, and Veronica Pitteard, MEA, a medical evaluation assistant, create a warm and inviting atmosphere, quelling fears with respectful, knowledgeable and caring approaches. Jeanne Lee, MD, and Nancy Lewis, RN, FNP, a nurse practitioner, provide compassionate, expert treatment and medical care. The outreach team is working hard to connect with the residents of Visitacion Valley and provide relevant information, referrals and health education. This team consists of two dynamic youth outreach workers from the community: Carina Douglas and Anna Esplana, a dedicated student and educator, Helen Chan and a social worker/counselor, H. R. Bremner, MSW, ASW, who also provides empathetic and nonjudgmental counseling to youth.

EarthTalk

Neighboring Gas Station

Dear EarthTalk: I am looking at possibly buying a house that is very close to a gasoline station. Is it safe to live so close to a gas station? What concerns should I have? I have toddler and infant babies. — Ranjeeta, Houston, TX

Despite all the modern health and safety guidelines they must follow, gas stations can still pose significant hazards to neighbors, especially children. Some of the perils include ground-level ozone caused in part by gasoline fumes, groundwater hazards from petroleum products leaking into the ground, and exposure hazards from other chemicals that might be used at the station if it's also a repair shop.

Ozone pollution is caused by a mixture of volatile organic compounds, some of which are found in gasoline vapors, and others, like carbon monoxide, that come from car exhaust. Most gas pumps today must have government-regulated vapor-recovery boots on their nozzles, which limit the release of gas vapors while you're refueling your car. A similar system is used by the station when a tanker arrives to refill the underground tanks. But if those boots aren't working properly, the nearly odorless hydrocarbon fumes, which contain harmful chemicals like benzene, can be released into the air.

Higher ozone levels can lead to respiratory problems and asthma, while benzene is a known cancer-causing chemical, according to the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The quest to reduce ozone levels has led the state of California to implement a more stringent vapor-recovery law, effective April 1, 2009, which requires that all gasoline pumps have a new, more effective vapor-recovery nozzle.

Underground gasoline storage tanks can also be a problem. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that there are some 660,000 of them from coast-to-coast. Many a lawsuit has been filed against oil firms in communities across the country by people whose soil and groundwater were fouled by a gas station's leaking underground storage tank. In the past, most tanks were made of uncoated steel, which will rust over time. Also, pipes leading to the tanks can be accidentally ruptured.

When thousands of gallons of gasoline enter the soil, chemicals travel to groundwater, which the EPA says is the source of drinking water for nearly half the U.S. If buying a home, consider its potential loss in value if a nearby underground storage tank were to leak. Gasoline additives such as methyl tertiary-

butyl ether (MTBE), which has been outlawed in some states, make the water undrinkable—and that is only one of 150 chemicals in gasoline. Repeated high exposure to gasoline, whether in liquid or vapor form, can cause lung, brain and kidney damage, according to the NIH's National Library of Medicine.

Spilled or vaporized gasoline is not the only chemical hazard if the station is also a repair shop. Mechanics use solvents, antitreeze and lead products, and may work on vehicles that have asbestos in brakes or clutches. Auto refinishers and paint shops use even more potentially harmful chemicals.

In today's car-centric world, we can't escape exposure completely, because these chemicals are in our air just about everywhere. But by choosing where we live, keeping an eye out for spills, and pressuring the oil companies to do the right thing for the communities they occupy, we can minimize our exposures.

Dear EarthTalk: Do zoos have serious programs to save endangered species, besides putting a few captives on display for everyone to see? — Kelly Traw, Seattle, WA

Most zoos are not only great places to get up close to wildlife, but many are also doing their part to bolster dwindling populations of animals still living free in the wild. To wit, dozens of zoos across North America participate in the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA's) Species Survival Plan (SSP) Program, which aims to manage the

breeding of specific endangered species in order to help maintain healthy and self-sustaining populations that are both genetically diverse and demographically stable.

The end goal of many SSP's is the reintroduction of captive-raised endangered species into their native wild habitats. According to the AZA, SSP's and related programs have helped bring black-footed ferrets, California condors, red wolves and several other endangered species back from the brink of extinction over the last three decades. Zoos also use SSP's as research tools to better understand wildlife biology and population dynamics, and to raise awareness and funds to support field projects and habitat protection for specific species. AZA now administers some 113 different SSP's covering 181 individual species.

To be selected as the focus of an SSP, a species must be endangered or threatened in the wild. Also, many SSP species are "flagship species," meaning that they are well-known to people and engender strong feelings for their preservation and the protection of their habitat. The AZA approves new SSP programs if various internal advisory committees deem the species in question to be needy of the help and if sufficient numbers of researchers at various zoos or aquariums can dedicate time and resources to the cause.

AZA's Maryland-based Conservation and Science Department administers the worldwide SSP program,

generating master plans for specific species and coordinating research, transfer and reintroductions. Part of this process involves designing a "family tree" of particular managed populations in order to achieve maximum genetic diversity and demographic stability. AZA also makes breeding and other management recommendations with consideration given to the logistics and feasibility of transfers between institutions as well as maintenance of natural social groupings. In some cases, master plans may recommend not to breed specific animals, so as to avoid having captive populations outgrow available holding spaces.

While success stories abound, most wildlife biologists consider SSP programs to be works in progress. AZA

zoos have been instrumental, for instance, in establishing a stable population of bongos, a threatened forest antelope native to Africa, through captive breeding programs under the SSP program. Many of these captive-bred bongos have subsequently been released into the wild and have helped bolster dwindling population numbers accordingly.

Of course, for every success story there are dozens of other examples where results have been less satisfying. SSP programs for lowland gorillas, Andean condors, giant pandas and snow leopards, among others, have not had such clear success, but remain part of the larger conservation picture for the species in question and the regions they inhabit.

Saturdays are Special at Randall Museum

The Randall Museum offers drop-in, hands-on art and science workshops every Saturday from 1 to 4 p.m. at 199 Museum Way (off Roosevelt, above the Castro). Workshops are \$3 per child; \$5 for a parent and child combo. All kids under 8 must be with a paying adult. Call 554-9600 for further information.

May 2: Make a flying bird after you learn a little about how bird's beaks can tell you what they eat.

May 9: Bring a small photo or other 2-D memento and frame it with glitter and paper mosaic.

May 16: Use small pieces of wood to design and build a delightful

miniature wooden chair.

May 23: Fly away to the land of Puff the Magic dragon! Make a delightful dragon sock puppet.

May 30: Bring breakfast in bed to the one you love. Create miniature sculpted dishes and food to deliver on a special ceramic tray.

Other regular Saturday activities include:

*Morning Family Ceramics from 10 to 11:30 a.m. (\$5 per person workshop fee)

*Meet the Animals from 11:15 a.m. to 12 noon.

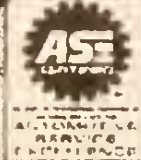
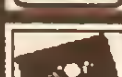
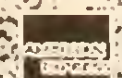
*Animal Feeding at 12 noon.

*Golden Gate Model Railroad Club Exhibit from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

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Grapevine Classified

VVCC BOARD MEETINGS: Visitacion Valley Community Center (VVCC) regular monthly Board meetings, held the 4th Thursday of each month at 6 p.m., except December and May, are open to the public. Board members are selected by the members of the community center with dues currently paid, at the Annual Membership meeting held the 3rd Saturday in May each year. Any vacancies that occur on the Board due to uncompleted 3-year terms of membership are filled by appointment of the remaining Board members. At least 75% of our Board members must reside in Visitacion Valley. Persons interested in Board membership are encouraged to send a letter of interest to Board of Directors Development Committee, Visitacion Valley Community Center, 50 Raymond Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94134. Please let the Board know what you could contribute that will enhance and improve our organization for better service to our community. You will be contacted and your letter will be submitted to the Board for consideration at either the next Annual election or of any available open positions that might occur within the coming year.

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Visitacion Valley Police Report

Police Cases

*On Mar. 21, a 19 year old Antioch man had been threatening his girlfriend and had broken into her home earlier in the week. She reported seeing him nearby and an officer and posse responded. They arrested the man after a foot pursuit and charged him with burglary and violating a court order.

*On Mar. 22 at 11 a.m., on the first block of Santos Street, an officer investigated a Domestic Violence incident and arrested a 40 year-old Sunnydale man for felony battery and vandalism. At 5:10 p.m. on the first block of Leland Avenue, officers witnessed a drug sale and arrested the buyer, a 55 year-old Redwood City man. The seller fled in a Toyota SUV. The man was charged with possession of methamphetamine.

*On Mar. 24 at 9 p.m. on the 1100 block of Visitacion Avenue, an officer investigated a Domestic Violence incident and named a 21 year-old Portola District man as a suspect in a felony battery case. At 9:20 p.m. on the 1900 block of Sunnydale Avenue, officers spoke to a motorist about equipment violations. They searched the man and found Ecstasy. The man, a 22 year-old Sunnydale resident, ran from the officers but was arrested nearby.

*On Mar. 27 at 7:10 a.m. at San Bruno and Harkness avenues, a 57 year-old Portola District woman had her purse pulled from her shoulder with such force that she fell to the ground. The perpetrator was described as a black male in his late 20s, standing 5'5" tall, weighing 140 pounds, wearing dark clothing. At 10:40 a.m. on the 100 block of Blythdale Avenue, an officer investigated a Domestic Violence incident and named a 22 year-old Sunnydale man as a suspect in a stalking and battery case. At 12:51 p.m. on the 1700 block of Geneva Avenue, a woman crossing Geneva Avenue in a motorized wheelchair was struck by a vehicle. She was pronounced dead at the scene. The motorist stayed at the scene. At 8 p.m. on the first block of Blythdale Avenue, a 28 year-old Sunnydale man was shot in the hand and face by an unknown assailant(s) as he exited his car. The man was taken to SFGH for treatment.

*On Mar. 28 at 3:35 a.m. on the 100 block of Blythdale Avenue, an officer investigated a Domestic Violence incident and arrested a 33 year-old Sunnydale man for felony battery and parole violation. At 10 a.m. on the 1900 block of Sunnydale Avenue, an officer investigated a Domestic Violence incident and named a 22 year-old Sunnydale woman in a felony battery case. At 2 p.m. at Leland Avenue and Alpha Street, a police lieutenant and posse stopped a car because one of the occupants was wanted on an Alameda County robbery warrant. The 24 year-old Sunnydale man was arrested without incident. A probation search of another passenger, the 20 year-old brother of the first man, revealed a cell phone photograph of the younger man with a revolver. A probation search of the younger man's residence on the 1800 block of Sunnydale Avenue revealed a loaded handgun. The younger brother was charged with being a felon in possession of a handgun.

*On Mar. 29 at 10:40 a.m. on the first block of Blythdale Avenue, an officer investigated a Domestic Violence incident and arrested a 31 year-old Silver Terrace neighborhood man for felony battery and for being a parolee at large. At 11:30 a.m. on the first block of Blythdale Avenue, an officer recognized a 22 year-old Sunnydale man as being named in a prior Domestic Violence report. He arrested the man for felony battery and violated his parole, too.

*On Mar. 30 at 1:50 a.m. on the 200

block of Blythdale Avenue, a cabie picked up two fares at 5th and Mission streets. They directed him to the 200 block of Blythdale Avenue. The rear passenger produced a gun and robbed the cabie of his proceeds, his wallet, and his cell phone. The two men fled on foot. They were described as a white male in his early 20s, 5'8" tall, 190 pounds, wearing a dark hooded sweatshirt and a black male in his late teens, 5'8" tall, 160 pounds, wearing a black jacket, grey shirt, and blue jeans. The first man carried the gun.

*On Apr. 2 at 6:10 p.m. at Sunnydale Avenue and Hahn Street, a 25 year-old Sunnydale woman was fired upon by unknown suspects. Her car's windows were shattered by bullets, as were a parked car's windows. No injuries were reported.

*On Apr. 3 at 10:35 p.m. at Crocker Amazon Park, plain clothes officers found a known parolee smoking crack and arrested the 46 year-old San Francisco man. They charged him with possession of narcotics and a crack pipe and violated his parole.

*On Apr. 4 at 2 a.m. on the 200 block of Rey Street, a 44 year-old Tenderloin District man went to his wife's home on Rey Street and pounded on the door demanding entry. He damaged the door and the police were called. A police sergeant and posse confronted the man and he resisted their arrest. The man was subdued after being doused with pepper spray and struck with a police baton. He was cited for three misdemeanors and released on a promise to appear at SFGH. A temporary restraining order was issued prohibiting the man from contacting his wife. He returned to her home at 4 p.m. that same day. A police sergeant and posse arrested the man for violating the court order. At 8:10 a.m. on the 2400 block of San Bruno Avenue, officers responded to a store regarding a shoplifter that had attacked a store clerk. Officers met with the victim who went with the officers to find the suspect. The victim pointed out the suspect a short distance from the store. Officers placed the suspect under arrest and located numerous items of evidence on her person. As officers were placing the suspect under arrest, another victim came forward from another store and advised that the same suspect had stolen items from his store as well. The suspect also had two outstanding warrants for her arrest for theft and burglary. The first victim was treated by medics and released from the hospital.

*On Apr. 6 at 2:26 p.m. on the first block of Blythdale Avenue, officers saw a wanted man run from them and they gave chase. A posse

found the man on the 1500 block of Sunnydale Avenue and he surrendered to the officers. The 26 year-old Sunnydale man was wanted on a Federal warrant for probation violation.

*On Apr. 8 at 12:45 a.m. on San Bruno and Arleta avenues, a 23 year-old Portola District woman waiting for a bus had her purse pulled from her shoulder. The robber then struck her twice in the face, causing her to lose her teeth. The perpetrator was described as a black male with a goatee in his 20s, 6'2" tall, 205 pounds, wearing a brown hooded sweatshirt, black pants and white shoes. The victim's purse was found on the 300 block of Arleta Avenue.

*On Apr. 9 at 1:25 p.m. on the 400 block of Hamilton Street, officers responded to a call regarding trespassers. Officers made entry into the abandoned house and located numerous subjects trespassing inside. Officers detained all parties and released all parties to their respective parents. No arrests were made.

*On Apr. 11 at 4 p.m. on the 100 block of Ordway Street, a resident reported hearing shots fired outside her home and found three bullet holes in her SUV. No injuries were reported. At 6:50 p.m. on the 300 block of Wilde Avenue, an officer investigated a Domestic Violence incident and arrested a 59 year-old Portola District man for felony battery, making criminal threats, and assault with a deadly weapon. A loaded handgun was seized as evidence. At Brookdale Avenue and Santos Street, two dead seagulls were found in the street. An officer reported that this was the second incident in the neighborhood in two weeks involving dead seagulls. No trauma was found to the birds' bodies. The case was referred to Animal Care and Control. At Leland Avenue and Peabody Street, an 11 year-old South San Francisco boy was bitten by loose dog. An officer located the dog and its owner and cited the 36 year-old Bayview District woman for a Health Code violation.

*On Apr. 12 at 2:25 p.m. on the 1300 block of Bowdoin Street, a police sergeant and posse surrounded a home in order to conduct a probation search. A neighbor ran from his home and attempted to break the officers' perimeter. The neighbor, a 16 year-old male, was detained and his brother, a 21 year-old, assaulted the officers in an attempt to lynch their prisoner. Three officers were injured in the melee that followed. The older brother was arrested and charged with two felonies. The younger brother was released on a promise to appear. At 9:25 p.m. on the first block of Tioga Avenue, an officer investigated a Domestic Violence incident and named a 30 year-old San Francisco woman as a sus-

pect in a felony battery case. On the 1700 block of Sunnydale Avenue, an officer investigated a dispute between two roommates they had argued over possession of a laptop computer. The officer seized the computer as it had been taken in a theft in Pacifica.

*On Apr. 13 at 2:12 a.m. on the 100 block of Silliman Street, officers responded to a robbery. Officers spoke with a victim, who stated that he had been walking home from the bus stop when two unknown suspects walked up to the victim, pulled out a small handgun, and pointed it at the victim. The victim gave the suspects all his property and was not injured. The suspects left the area after the robbery and officers were not able to locate them. At 6:30 a.m. on the 1800 block of Sunnydale Avenue, an officer investigated a Domestic Violence incident and arrested a 22 year-old Sunnydale man for felony battery. At 10:05 p.m. on the first block of Blythdale Avenue, residents reported hearing shots fired and officers searched the neighborhood. They found a dead body with gunshot wounds near a playground behind 32 Blythdale Ave. A lieutenant from Homicide Detail took over the case. This is Ingleside Police District's third homicide of 2009.

*On Apr. 14 at 12:30 p.m. at Girard and Felton streets, a police service aid took a report regarding a robbery. The victim stated that he was walking down the street when an unknown suspect came up behind him and told the victim that he had a gun, demanding all of his valuables. The victim, in fear for his life, gave the suspect his cell phone and money. The suspect ran down the street with the victims' property. The victim was not injured during the incident. Officers did not locate the suspect. At 3:10 p.m. on the 2400 block of San Bruno Avenue, an officer responded to a call regarding a forgery that had occurred at a bank. The officer spoke to the bank manager who told him that a customer had come in with a check and cashed it, receiving a large amount of cash for the check. The manager stated that the customer literally ran out of the bank after he got his money, so the bank manager took another look at the check, which turned out to be fraudulent. The suspect was not located. The fraud department at the bank, along with SFPD's fraud department took over the investigation. At 4:15 p.m. at Schwerin Street and Leland Avenue, a 17 year-old Visitacion Valley teen was robbed of her iPod at gunpoint by two teens as she walked on the sidewalk. The perpetrators fled in a green Buick. Officers investigated, found the two suspects nearby, and arrested them. The victim identified the pair as her assailants. The officers found the car on the 300 block of Raymond Avenue and seized a

loaded handgun from its glovebox. The car had been stolen earlier. The two robbers, San Francisco residents, were remanded into the custody of a Juvenile Probation Officer.

*On Apr. 15, on the 1800 block of Sunnydale Avenue an officer and posse arrested a 28 year-old Outer Mission District woman on two felony warrants.

*On Apr. 17 at 3:30 p.m. on the 300 block of Girard Street, officers responded to a fight at a school. The officers met with a victim who stated that she was security for the school and that she was responsible for rounding up the students who have detention. The victim approached one student and advised her that she had detention. The student told her that she did not and began yelling obscenities, pushing students and a counselor, and attempting to attack security. Officers arrived and placed the suspect under arrest. No one was hurt during the incident.

*On Apr. 20 at 10:13 a.m. on the 300 blk of Arleta Avenue, officers responded to a report of an assault in progress. Officers on scene placed the suspect under arrest and called for medical assistance for the victim. At 6:15 p.m. at Sunnydale Avenue and Hahn Street, officers viewed a subject who was drinking and intoxicated in public. After a brief struggle, the suspect was placed under arrest.

*On Apr. 21 at 2:49 a.m. on the 2900 block of San Bruno Avenue, officers responded to a call regarding a assault with a deadly weapon. Officers located a victim who was bleeding from the head and had a large bump on her eyebrow. Officers attempted to render aid and called for a medic. The victim swore at the officers and told them to leave her alone. The victim also refused to let the medics treat her. The victim's husband arrived and told officers that he was the one that called for his wife, who had been hit by an unknown suspect after his wife attempted to parhandle from her. The victim was finally transported by medics to SFGH, where she was treated and released.

*On Apr. 22 at 4:20 p.m. on the 1600 block of Sunnydale Avenue, officers recognized and arrested a subject in this area who they had previously served with a stay away order. At 4:21 p.m. on the 1700 block of Sunnydale Ave., officers were on patrol when they spotted a wanted subject. The person was taken into custody without incident.

*On Apr. 23 at 5:23 p.m. on the 1700 block Sunnydale Avenue, officers were working plainclothes when they responded to a traffic stop. The male subject who officers recognized from prior police contacts was on parole. With the assistance of a police sergeant, a parole search of his residence was conducted. Narcotics were found in his possession, for which he was later booked. *See Next Page*

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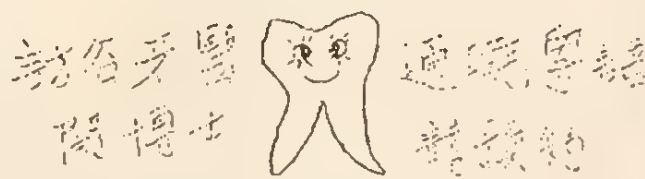
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Police Summaries

*Mar. 22 700 block of Rutland St., '91 Acura Integra recovered (BART PD case).
 *Mar. 22 First block of Santos St., fire report, SFFD extinguished trash fire
 *Mar. 22 1600 block of Sunnydale Ave., battery, suspect named
 *Mar. 22 300 block of Teddy Ave., death case, cause unknown
 *Mar. 23 200 block of Argonaut Ave., battery suspect known
 *Mar. 23 300 block of Leland Ave., threats, phone call claiming bomb threat
 *Mar. 23 500 block of Sawyer St., '87 Chevrolet Caprice recovered
 *Mar. 23 1800 block of Sunnydale Ave., 36 year-old Sunnydale woman arrested on local misdemeanor vandalism warrant
 *Mar. 24 First block of Brookdale Ave., auto burglary
 *Mar. 24 400 block of Harkness Ave., '86 Honda motorcycle stolen
 *Mar. 24 500 block of Sawyer St., 45 year-old Visitacion Valley woman cited for allowing her dog to bite another dog
 *Mar. 25 200 block of Raymond Ave., battery, suspects known
 *Mar. 26 200 block of Leland Ave., fraud, victim's identification used in loan scam
 *Mar. 26 800 block of Rutland Ave., 50 year-old Visitacion Valley man arrested for battery
 *Mar. 26 1000 block of Sunnydale Ave., vandalism to parked cars, 8 slashed tires
 *Mar. 26 1600 block of Sunnydale Ave., found person, juvenile
 *Mar. 27 5 p.m., 2400 block of Bayshore Blvd., burglary occurred between 6 p.m. on Mar. 26 and 1:30 a.m. on Mar. 27, forced entry to warehouse via front door, copper wire taken
 *Mar. 27 1200 block of Brussels St., vandalism to building, broken window
 *Mar. 27 First block of Campbell Ave., fraud, victim's identification used in loan scam
 *Mar. 28 Blythdale Ave. & Santos St., battery, suspect unknown
 *Mar. 29 100 block of Blythdale Ave., '03 Infinity FX3 recovered, another car's plate attached to stolen car
 *Mar. 29 200 block of Lathrop Ave., one detained in stolen license plate investigation
 *Mar. 29 100 block of Schwenn St., '89 Honda Accord recovered
 *Mar. 30 Sunnydale Ave. and Hahn St., threats, suspect known
 *Mar. 30 1500 block of Visitacion Ave., harassing phone calls
 *Mar. 30 200 block of Blythdale Ave., '06 Toyota SUV recovered with another car's plate attached and property inside the vehicle which had been taken in two separate Walnut Creek, CA car burglaries the day before
 *Mar. 31 9:20 p.m., 3000 block of San Bruno Ave., vandalism to property
 *Mar. 31 11:30 p.m. 1200 block of Silliman St., burglary, entry made through a pried open front door, loss was money, gold coins
 *Mar. 31 200 block of Blythdale Ave., '91 Acura Legend stolen.

*Mar. 31 Visitacion Ave. and Hahn St., theft from building, unattended cell phone taken from swimming pool locker.
 *Apr. 1 6:20 p.m., 100 block of Tioga Ave., burglary occurred between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m., forced entry via front door, jewelry taken
 *Apr. 1 200 block of Blythdale Ave., '91 Acura Legend recovered (unfounded theft)
 *Apr. 1 Bntton St. and Leland Ave., found property, Maryland woman's wallet
 *Apr. 1 100 block of Santos St., vandalism to building, graffiti.
 *Apr. 1 Santos St. and Blythdale Ave., officers arrested 31 year-old Sunnydale man on two local misdemeanor warrants
 *Apr. 1 First block of Schwenn St., found person, juvenile
 *Apr. 1 Sunnydale Ave. and Rey St., failure to yield, motorist eluded police during chase, South San Francisco PD identified suspect
 *Apr. 1 100 block of Cora St., vandalism to parked car, broken window and punctured tires, suspect named
 *Apr. 1 Hahn St. and Visitacion Ave., traffic officer arrested 19 year-old Western Addition woman on a local misdemeanor warrant
 *Apr. 1 100 block of Santos St., traffic officer arrested 49 year-old Bayview District man for DUI Case
 *Apr. 1 Santos St. and Blythdale Ave., traffic officer arrested 26 year-old Daly City man on a local misdemeanor warrant
 *Apr. 2 100 block of Cora St., vandalism to parked car, broken window and punctured tires, suspect named
 *Apr. 2 Hahn St. and Visitacion Ave. traffic officer arrested 19 year-old Western Addition woman on local misdemeanor warrant
 *Apr. 2 100 block of Santos St., traffic officer arrested 49 year-old Bayview District man for DUI.
 *Apr. 2 Santos St. and Blythdale Ave., traffic officer arrested 26 year-old Daly City man on local misdemeanor warrant
 *Apr. 3 4:20 p.m., 1100 block of Sunnydale Ave., burglary occurred between 7:30 a.m. and 3 p.m., unlawful entry via unlocked back door, interior door forced open, safe, Playstation, video games, and luggage taken
 *Apr. 3 300 block of Leland Ave., auto burglary
 *Apr. 4 300 block of Arleta Ave., vandalism to parked car, broken windows
 *Apr. 4 1700 block of Geneva Ave., landlord/tenant dispute
 *Apr. 4 Sunnydale Ave. and Hahn St., disturbing the peace
 *Apr. 5 Tucker Ave. and Rutland St., traffic collision, hit and run, no injuries
 *Apr. 6 Sunnydale Ave. and Bayshore Blvd., '94 Acura Legend recovered
 *Apr. 7 2 a.m., Silver Ave. and University St., stolen auto.
 *Apr. 8 Arleta Ave. and Bayshore Blvd., traffic collision, two vehicles, one party injured
 *Apr. 8 200 block of Arleta Ave., vandalism to parked car, broken windows
 *Apr. 8 Leland Ave. and Bayshore Blvd., SF man was arrested on a California Department of Corrections parole warrant

*Apr. 8 700 block of Mansell St., 60 year-old Visitacion Valley man was arrested on a local felony warrant for failing to register as a sex offender. The man was also charged with possession of crack cocaine
 *Apr. 8 200 block of Schwenn St., 25 year-old Visitacion Valley man was arrested on an Alameda County misdemeanor warrant
 *Apr. 8 1700 block of Sunnydale Ave., 43 year-old Sunnydale man was arrested on the on a local DUI warrant
 *Apr. 9 First block of Leland Ave., 20 year-old Portola District man cited for failing to yield to officer's red light and siren. He travelled for five city blocks without stopping
 *Apr. 11 120 a.m., First block of Argonaut Ave., arson occurred between Mar. 11 and 29, landlord reported fire damage to wooden deck
 *Apr. 11 500 block of Leland Ave., '00 Honda CRV recovered
 *Apr. 12 7:15 p.m., 1700 block of Sunnydale Ave., burglary occurred between 6 a.m. on Apr. 10 and 7 p.m. on Apr. 12, unlawful entry via rear door, computer and cell phone taken
 *Apr. 12 First block of Brookdale Ave., mental health intervention.
 *Apr. 12 200 block of Raymond Ave., '99 Honda Civic stolen
 *Apr. 13 First block of Blythdale Ave., auto burglary
 *Apr. 13 1200 block of Sunnydale Ave., child custody dispute
 *Apr. 13 1600 block of Sunnydale Ave., Sunnydale teenager was arrested for possessing an argun and remanded to care of juvenile probation officer
 *Apr. 13 2000 block of Sunnydale Ave., vandalism to building, broken window
 *Apr. 14 First block of Brookdale Ave., found person, juvenile
 *Apr. 15 1800 block of Sunnydale Ave., '06 Chrysler Sebring stolen.
 *Apr. 18 2 p.m., 300 block of Wayland St., entry made through a rear door, loss was a stereo system
 *Apr. 19 8 a.m., 500 block of Brussels St., vandalism to car
 *Apr. 19 10 a.m., an officer prepared a report regarding a missing juvenile.
 *Apr. 20 4:45 p.m., 200 block Sawyer St., report of credit card fraud was filed at Ingleside Station, suspect unknown.
 *Apr. 20 8:30 p.m., 100 block of Leland Ave., officers prepared tarasoff report, suspect known.
 *Apr. 22 3:30 p.m., traffic collision occurred on Delta at Harkness St., no injuries
 *Apr. 22 10:30 p.m., 1100 block of Felton St., entry made through front door which was pried open, loss was a metal plate and money
 *Apr. 24 1300 block of Sunnydale Ave., a found person report was taken by officers
 *Apr. 24 1:28 p.m., Ingleside officers prepared a stolen vehicle report on Bayshore Blvd. and Arleta Ave.
 *Apr. 24 4:11 p.m., a traffic collision occurred on Bayshore Blvd. and Leland Ave.
 Captain David Lazar of Ingleside Station, Captain John Loftus of Bayview Station and Captain Denis O'Leary contributed to this report

Web Tool Spurs Climate-Friendly Behavior

Mayor Gavin Newsom on Apr. 22 announced EcoMap San Francisco (<http://www.urbanecomap.org/>), an Internet-based tool that gives San Franciscans the ability to see the collective results of their individual climate change actions, while also motivating people to make responsible environmental choices. EcoMap provides information on carbon emissions from transportation, energy and waste, organized by San Francisco zip codes to create competition among neighborhoods to reduce their carbon footprint.

"EcoMap San Francisco provides residents, businesses and our City with much-needed tools to help reduce San Francisco's carbon footprint," said Mayor Newsom. "People will be able to easily track their own efforts, and see real results to which they contributed."

EcoMap provides communities with information on their progress toward meeting greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals, and with access to the most useful, locally available tools and resources for reducing their carbon footprint. EcoMap amasses information on a neighborhood level, organized by zip codes, in the following two ways:

"Discover Your City's Neighborhoods: Through this visual display, residents can see their greenhouse gas contributions in the areas of transportation, energy, and waste. This information empowers neighborhoods to identify and take specific actions to fight climate change

using approaches such as alternative-fuel vehicle ownership, recycling, and reducing household energy use.

"Take Climate Actions: Citizens can make decisions to help decrease the carbon footprint of their geographic regions, their particular zip code, and their city. They can make these choices by gaining visibility into several key factors, including the effort required to make the change, the associated cost or financial benefit, and the environmental impact of the action. Citizens can then share their climate actions with others via social networking sites.

The EcoMap pilot is a collaborative effort between San Francisco and Cisco's Internet Business Solutions Group (IBSG). EcoMap was developed as part of a public-private partnership aimed at addressing the unique environmental problems confronted by urban areas.

"Cities are the world's major source of greenhouse gas emissions, consuming 75 percent of the world's energy," said Newsom. "We are pleased that Cisco selected San Francisco as the first city in the world to launch EcoMap so we can aggressively reverse that trend."

EcoMap San Francisco will be fully functional by the end of May 2009. Subsequently, Cisco will develop similar EcoMaps for cities around the world.

For additional information on EcoMap San Francisco visit: <http://www.urbanecomap.org/>

Events in May at Valley Branch Library

Following are events in April at the Visitacion Valley Branch Library, 45 Leland Ave.:

*May 5, 12, 19 and 26, Tuesday: Preschool Storytime for ages 3-5 at 10:30 a.m.

*May 5, 12, 19 and 26, Tuesday: Toddler Tales and Playtime with books, rhymes, music and movement at 11:30 a.m. for children ages 18-36 months and caregivers. Stay for the playtime, right after the program.

*May 6, Wednesday: Fabric Flower Crafts for Teens at 3:30 to 5 p.m. You don't need April showers to make your own fabulous May flowers! Learn how to make beautiful handmade flowers from fabric, lace, buttons and doodads! Makes a great Mother's Day gift! All materials are provided. Space is limited and registration is required. For information or to register, contact Abby at (415) 355-2848 or aharwood@sfl.org.

Affordable Homes in San Francisco, Buy a home at Bay Oaks

I AM A,
MOTHER
SISTER
NURSE
HOMEOWNER

Learn About This First Time Homebuyer Opportunity

March 26	West Bay Conference Center
6:30-8:00 pm	1290 Fillmore Street
April 4	Bayview Commons Comm. Rm
10:30am-12:00pm	4445 Third Street
May 12	Joseph Lee Recreation Center
11:00am-12:30pm	1395 Mendell Ave.

RSVP 415.822.1022 x119 or bayoaks@sfhdc.org

Application Deadline June 3, 2009

If you think your income is too low to qualify, **THINK AGAIN!**

Call SFHDC to learn how you can qualify for additional grants and downpayment assistance using the SFRA Certificate of Preference Second Loan Program, WISH, EARN, and Mortgage Credit Certificate program (MCC).



***Priced between low-\$100,000's to mid-\$200,000's**

18 affordable 1 bedroom and 2-bedroom condominiums over commercial space in the heart of the Town Center district of Bayview. *Final pricing depends on final HOA dues and will reflect subsidies through SFRA.

Household Size	Income Cannot Exceed			
	70% AMI	80% AMI	90% AMI	100% AMI
1	\$46,200	\$52,800	\$59,400	\$66,000
2	\$52,800	\$60,350	\$67,900	\$75,450
3	\$59,400	\$67,900	\$76,350	\$84,850
4	\$66,000	\$75,450	\$84,850	\$94,300
5	\$71,300	\$81,500	\$91,650	\$101,850
6	\$76,800	\$87,500	\$98,450	\$109,400

Applicants must have a Homebuyer certificate from an SFRA approved housing counseling organization in order to purchase available homes. "Priority will be given to San Francisco Redevelopment Agency's ("SFRA") Certificate of Preference holders."*

*Certificate of Preference holders are primarily households displaced by Agency action in Redevelopment Project Areas during the 1960's and 1970's but may also include other persons displaced by Agency action. San Francisco Redevelopment Agency Certificate Hotline 115-715-2411.



**San Francisco Housing
Development Corporation**

www.sfhdc.org | 4439 Third Street | P. 415.822.1022



SHE DID IT, SO CAN YOU

Grapevine Puzzler

ACCUMENNIWELLINGTONH
EYMLAVOWYHEENILETATS
HTYISVALLEYELLAVNUSM
CIETNIXONCALEHCARNPE
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ANDCHHLIGCMDRHBERTK
CUNRASILVERSNPMALLEEI
AOAATASKRAPSEIOJRYEC
RMSETOLLETNOMAAZAKRA
OASAETIUQSEMKEPHCCI
RDLUNINGATNUOMAPCOGN
AAHPMURHAPROUNDHOLNI
CVTSEWENDOVERNEYVEIG
SORUBYVALLEYUIDREVR
UROVERTONELLISAFBOP
TONOPAH TROWSDAWELLSV

Lovelock	Nellis AFB	Round	Tonopah
Lund	Nixon	Mountain	Tuscarora
Luning	North	Ruby Valley	Valmy
Manhattan	Las Vegas	Ruth	Verdi
McGill	Oasis	Sandy Valley	Virginia City
McDermitt	Orovada	Searchlight	Wadsworth
Mercury	Overton	Silver City	Wellington
Mesquite	Owyhee	Silver	Wells
Mina	Pahrump	Springs	Wendover
Minden	Panaca	Silverpeak	West
Moapa	Paradise	Smith	Wendover
Montello	Valley	Sparks	Winnemucca
Mount	Pioche	Spring Creek	Yerington
Charleston	Rachel	Stateline	Zephyr
Mountain City	Reno	Sun Valley	Cove

Historic Proportions

- 1860
Match clues to answers.
1. On July 11, he became Crown Prince of Japan.
2. He was elected U.S. President on Nov. 6.
3. John Hanning Speke and James Augustus Grant left Zanzibar in early October to search for source of this.
4. On Mar. 24, Savoy and Nice were annexed to this country.
5. Cauca seceded from this central government in protest on May 8.
6. The discovery of this planet was announced in Paris on Jan. 2.
7. This began its first run at Saint Joseph, Missouri on Apr. 3.
8. The New Mori revolt began here on Oct. 19.
9. His forces took Palermo, the capital of Sicily on May 27.
10. On Sept. 7, hundreds drowned when the Lady Elgin was accidentally

As a Matter of Fact

"The first root beer in America was manufactured by Charles Elmer Hires in Philadelphia, in 1866.
"In Roman mythology the eagle was associated with lightning.
"The term *ad lib*, meaning to improvise, is a shortening of the term *ad libitum*. In music, this phrase is a direction to interpret, improvise or omit, according to the player's preference.
"Alfred Hitchcock directed the first talking film made in England. It was called *Blackmail*.
"The first toothbrush with synthetic bristles was introduced in 1938.

Grapevine Five Years Ago

MAY 2004
"Hundreds of neighborhood residents packed the Visitation Valley Elementary School auditorium on Apr. 24 to voice their concerns during a Saturday morning town hall meeting with Mayor Gavin Newsom, his fourth visit to the area in a month.

Sump, the Grump



Poor Rix Almanac

by Rix Quinn
Dear Poor Rix: This is my first spring in my new apartment. My girlfriend dropped by last night, and said it's a mess! She says it's time for "spring cleaning." What's that? – George
This annual ritual is older than athlete's foot. Even primitive tree dwellers cleaned their nests each April by sweeping away dead branches, poisonous snakes, and out-of-fashion animal skins.
George, here are a few suggestions to speed through this chore:
1. Wear old clothes, because cleaning can get dirty. (Antique clothes may be defined as "something older than a telegraph.")
2. To energize, play upbeat music. Poor Rix's favorite work songs include "My den is dirty but my mind is clean," and "The kitchen window's grimy and it's givin' me a pane."
3. Get rid of clutter, unless Clutter is the name of your gerbil. Remember that old poem: "A clean room leads to joy among us. A dirty room welcomes Mr. Fungus."
4. Prioritize your tasks by listing projects. Poor Rix's agenda includes: (a) Discard insect collection currently in sock drawer. (b) Buy shower curtain to match shower cap. (c) Check behind couch cushions for coins, folding money, and unpaid bills.
5. Remove musty room smells by opening windows. (Poor Rix successfully removed a musty personal smell by using a product called "deodorant.")
Dear Poor Rix: I would like to run for the legislature when I graduate from school. How do I get started? – Student Body President
Poor Rix congratulates you on your decision to serve constituents. Some people just want to be politicians.
Poor Rix never ran for anything at school, except the door when the teacher hollered "Recess!" But here's what friends tell me about politics:
How much money do you need? About three gazillion dollars. This allows you to print campaign posters, buy advertising time, and hire a crowd to show up for your first few speeches.
The fastest way to raise cash is from affluent relatives. Poor Rix used to get rent money from distant cousins by threatening to come live in their guest rooms.
Or, you can gather funds by going door-to-door. Some people call this "building grassroots support." Others call it "begging."
Few candidates run unopposed. Therefore, it's helpful to join a party. Which one? Poor Rix attends all parties, especially ones with ice sculptures on the food table.
Once elected, some legislators serve multiple terms, and eventually retire. A few retire when they take office.
Hey, Poor Rix: Please settle these ongoing arguments we have at work. Is popcorn really corn? Is the tomato a fruit or vegetable? How about an eggplant? – Office Manager
Popcorn is actually corn. A unicorn is not.
Some people think tomatoes are fruit, and others think they are vegetables. My Uncle Hickory claims tomatoes are a grain, but he's always been kind of a nut.
As for eggplant, I'm clueless. Poor Rix once tried to plant an egg, but it never grew a chicken.
Poor Rix: At night, I get frequent calls from sales people. Does this happen to you? – Larry
Yes. Last night I got a call from a guy who offered ventriloquism lessons. "How do I know they work?" I asked.
"Because," he said, "right now my dummy's talking to you, and I'm

drinking water."
How long does it take a chicken to hatch eggs? – Curious
A long time. But time means nothing to a chicken.
Actually, it takes about 21 days for a chick to come out of its shell...longer if it's shy.
Dear Poor Rix: Since you claim to be bookish, who invented libraries? – Librarian
Ancient Mesopotamians deserve the credit. They originally created books by marking on wet clay tablets. When these dried...instant heavy reading!
Then these smart people – with tons of texts – built libraries to house their volumes. Unfortunately, few ancient books survive. And they don't have many pictures, because it's tough to draw with a chisel.

Baby Boomers

by Rix Quinn
School Pictures
The photographer came to our elementary school once a year. Did he visit your school too?
At that time, he took group photos of every teacher's class. When our time came, we paraded down the hall, and out to the front of the school where we

Helpful Tips on Buying Certified Cars

If you're thinking of purchasing a used car, there's good news. Used cars don't have to be as risky a purchase as they used to be. Thanks to certification programs, it's harder to distinguish new from used and more Americans are turning to certified cars for better value.
Certification offers a way to weed out unscrupulous used-car dealers who might sell damaged cars. Vehicles damaged by floodwaters or involved in major accidents are prime candidates to end up as part of such scams.
The number of certified pre-owned (CPO) vehicles sold this year is expected to increase significantly from 1.7 million purchased in 2008. Besides costing less than new-car counterparts, certified vehicles also come with many of the same benefits, eliminating much of the guesswork associated with buying used.
Some say it is one of the few segments of the auto market where both sales and value to the buyer have increased. Be wary, however, because not all certification programs are created equal. To help sort out the best from the worthless, used-car experts offer the following tips:
Certified by whom?
Make sure you know who sets the standards for the certification program and who makes

climbed risers. Twenty-five of us – or sometimes more – would stand on four or five different levels.
But the excitement came two or three weeks later, when those group photos arrived. If you had smiled at the right time, good for you. But surprisingly, a few blinked, moved, or grimaced at the wrong time...and those are the photos we remember!
Higher Education
My friend Jerry ponders the question about why so many Boomers hold advanced college degrees.
"We grew up in the '50s, '60s, and '70s. Our parents worked hard so we could go to college. College usually meant a chance for better jobs and better income.
"When we graduated, we found ourselves competing for jobs with other Boomers, also college graduates. Many of us went to graduate school for advanced training to make ourselves even more employable.
"As we've gotten older, we've seen so many technological changes we're still going back to school and learning more. Education and advanced training are both important...and that's the message we've relayed to our children."

certain they're being enforced. Look for a manufacturer-backed program – the best people to certify a car are the ones who built it and specialize in that make. Most manufacturers will offer a limited warranty in addition to honoring the car's original warranty.
Do your homework.
Research the models that make sense for your driving needs. Check safety and reliability reports published online and prices from your whole area.
How was the car certified?
At a minimum, a car should have a detailed mechanical inspection and vehicle history reports.
Carfax Vehicle History Reports are a mandatory part of the certification process for more than 80 percent of today's manufacturer-certified programs.
What does it get you?
The certified used car you're buying probably comes with an extended warranty. Make sure you know exactly what this covers and for how long. You can always add additional coverage.
Ask for more.
If you want roadside assistance, options added to the car, free oil changes or anything else, don't be afraid to ask.
For more information or to order a report, go to www.carfax.com. **NAPS**

Crossword Puzzle

Solution on Page 6

ACROSS
1 Scot. Island
5 Have debts
8 Diplomacy
12 Time period
13 Bled
14 Three-banded armadillo
15 Vega
(2 words)
17 Eelworm
18 Month abbr.
19 Pokeweed
21 King (Sp.)
22 Move a camera
23 Nub
25 Yellow
28 Poseidon
31 Bare
32 Lugubrious
33 Of the mouth
34 Shaped like a club
36 Realm
37 Wither
38 Chairmn (abbr.)
39 Tablespoon (abbr.)
41 Father of Oedipus
43 Jap. Fish
46 Quod demonstration
48 Hades
50 Air (pref.)
51 One (pref.)
52 Recent (suf.)
53 Arabian judge
54 Sheep's cry
55 Stone (pref.)
DOWN
1 P.I. food
2 Iodine source
3 Possessive pronoun
4 Compass Direction
5 Eng. Dramatist
6 Women's Army Aux. Corps (abbr.)
7 Irate
8 Buff
9 Gap
10 Window lead
11 Salver
16 Rod
20 Drink of liquor
22 Irk
24 Fume
25 Television channel
26 Honey
27 Armbrand
28 No (Scott.)
29 Bobbey twins
30 Guido's note (2 words)
32 Layer
35 Mulberry of India
36 Alaska Hawaii
38 Papal court
40 Mineral tar
42 Savings (suf.)
43 Linden
44 Family relative
45 Elbe tributary
47 Thou (Fr.)
49 Amer. College of Physicians (abbr.)

Visitacion Valley Business Directory

Valley free listings in the 415 area code
Call the Grapevine at (415) 467-9300

AQUARIUM
DRAGON CITY AQUARIUM, 144 Leland Ave., 333-4598

AUTOMOTIVE
BAYSHORE AUTO, 2260 Bayshore Blvd., 467-6130
BAYSHORE SERVICE, 2506 Bayshore Blvd., 239-5239
BROTHERS AUTO BODY, 2520 Bayshore Blvd.
CHARLIE'S GARAGE, 2560 Bayshore Blvd., 239-7450
T.W. AUTOMOTIVE, 2500 Bayshore Blvd., 585-8281

BANK
BANK OF AMERICA, 6 Leland Ave., 622-4501

BAKERS
LITTLE QUIAPO BAKE SHOP, 169 Leland Ave., 239-2253

BARBERS
BARBERSHOP, 3570 San Bruno Ave., 724-4398
EMMA'S HAIR SALON, 35 Leland Ave., 587-7429
THE SHOP (UB), 160A Leland Ave., 239-6709

BEAUTICIANS
BODY SOUL & SPIRIT, 222 Leland Ave., 333-7261
CONNIE'S HAIR, 2436 Bayshore Blvd., 586-8288
FACE, BODY & SOUL, 3582 San Bruno Ave., 467-3223
HONG KONG HAIR & NAIL BEAUTY SALON, 199 Leland Ave., 333-1005
NAILSBY JENNY, 50 Leland Ave., 333-6800
SHERRY BEAUTY SALON, 60 Leland Ave., 337-9381

BLIND CLEANING
SPEEDY ULTRASONIC BLIND CLEANING (commercial and residential), 1116 Gerard St., 467-7506

BOARDING HOUSE
ABLE'S CASA, 850 Rutland St., 333-4664, fax 333-4693

BOOKKEEPERS
AMY ARAGON PROFESSIONAL BOOKKEEPER, 467-8927
VERNA WALLACE E.A., 2320 Bayshore Blvd., 239-5333

CARPETS
HAN SAN INTERIORS, 41 Leland Ave., 333-6382

CHURCHES
CHURCH OF THE VISITACION, 655 Sunnydale Ave., 239-5950
IGLESIA EL ESPIRITU SANTO, 38 Leland Ave.
KOREAN FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 333 Tunnel Ave., 468-1213
RIDGE VIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 590 Leland Ave., 239-5457
ST. JAMES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 240 Leland Ave., 586-6381
VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH, 306 Raymond Ave., 467-6065
VISITACION CHINESE BAPTIST CHURCH, 8 Desmond St., 333-4503

COFFEE
CANDLESTICK COFFEE, 2156 Bayshore Blvd., 467-2442
HAPPY DONUT, 2600 Bayshore Blvd., 469-5309
JOE LELAND CAFE, 28 Leland Ave.

CREDIT UNION
NORTHEAST COMMUNITY FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, 29 Leland Ave., 434-0738

DAY CARE
CAROUSEL DAY CARE, 261 Hahn St., 469-5353

DENTIST
VISITACION VALLEY DENTAL OFFICE (Albert Kuan, DDS), 37 Leland Ave., 239-5500

DEVELOPERS
VISITACION VALLEY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION, 1099 Sunnydale Ave., 587-7896

ELECTRICAL
TATE ELECTRIC (Joel Tate), 467-4657

FLOORS
TEDDY B'S HARDWOOD FLOORS, 309-6342

FLORISTS
IL FIORE FLOWERS, 2466 San Bruno Ave., 468-0145

GARDEN ORNAMENTS
SILVESTRI GARDEN ORNAMENTS, 2635 Bayshore Blvd., 239-5990

GROCERS
CASA LOPEZ PRODUCE, 58 Leland Ave., 586-4745
E-Z STOP MARKET, 2203 Geneva Ave., 585-9240
FIVE MILE MARKET, 3574 San Bruno Ave., 467-7300
LA LOMA PRODUCE #2, 65 Leland Ave., 239-7520
LITTLE VILLAGE MARKET, 1450 Sunnydale Ave., 586-1815
M & M SHORTSTOP, 2145 Geneva Ave., 585-0878
PICCOLO PETE, 2155 Bayshore Blvd., 468-6800
7-11, 2200 Bayshore Blvd., 468-8646
SHUN LEE MARKET, 2400 Bayshore Blvd., 586-4851
TEDDY'S MARKET, 298 Teddy Ave.

HERBS
SAN ON HERBS, 33-A Leland Ave., 333-7469

HYPNOTHERAPY
VALERIE HABEGGER-HYPNOTHERAPY, 371 Teddy Ave., 468-5631

INSURANCE
EDIE EPPS (A.H.E. INSURANCE), 467-0236, Fax 467-0276
ROBERT LEHMAN, CLTC (Blue Cross), 333-0850

KITCHEN CABINETS
LEE CHANG INTERNATIONAL, 25 Leland Ave., 333-2730

LANDSCAPING
SAN FRANCISCO LANDSCAPES, 256 Talbert St., 585-9137, sfscapes.com

LAUNDRY/CLEANERS
BAY WASH, 44 Leland Ave., 333-9467
COIN WASH & DRY LAUNDRY, 186 Leland Ave.
FORTY-NINER CLEANERS, 51 Leland Ave., 239-6418
LELAND AVENUE CLEANERS, 151 Leland Ave., 586-1412
VALLEY LAUNDRY, 90 Leland Ave.
VISITACION VALLEY LAUNDRY, 108 Leland Ave., 239-9030

LEARNING
FIRST PLACE 2 START, 1252 Sunnydale Ave., 333-2659
HERITAGE HOMES CHILD AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CENTER, 245 Rey St., 586-8700
JOHN KING CHILO AND FAMILY DEVELOPMENT CENTER, 500 Raymond Ave., 333-1375
VISITACION VALLEY COMMUNITY BEACON CENTER, 450 Raymond Ave., 452-4907
VISITACION VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER
CHILDRENS PROGRAMS, 103 Tucker Ave., 467-5565
VISITACION VALLEY FAMILY SCHOOL, 325 Leland Ave., 585-9320

LIBRARY
VISITACION VALLEY BRANCH, 45 Leland Ave., 239-5270

MANUFACTURER
SEE'S CANDIES, INC., 345 Schwenn St.

MEDICAL
AMERICAN RED CROSS, BAY AREA CHAPTER, 1704 Sunnydale Ave., 584-3620
HAWKINS VILLAGE MEDICAL CLINIC (Dept. of Public Health), 1099 Sunnydale Ave. Appointments: 715-0310
OR. SAM HO, MO, 2858 San Bruno Ave., 337-6135
NEW CARNIVAL ACUPRESSURE HEALTH CENTER, 2458 Bayshore Blvd., 337-8100
NORTH EAST MEDICAL SERVICES, LELAND AVENUE, 82 Leland Ave., 391-9686 (ask for Leland Avenue clinic)
PORTOLA FOOT & ANKLE CLINIC (Dr. Dryang Patel) 2858 San Bruno Ave. 467-7500

NOTARY
ROYAL PACIFIC MORTGAGE, 46 Leland Ave., 333-4900

ORGANIZATIONS
ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER, 2442 Bayshore Blvd., 587-2689
WILLIE BROWN JR. TEEN CENTER, 1652 Sunnydale Ave., 584-6099
GENEVA TERRACE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, 60 Buitt Ave., 584-2700
GIRLS AFTER SCHOOL ACADEMY, 2050 Sunnydale Ave., 333 Schwenn St., 584-4044
JOHN KING SENIOR COMMUNITY, 500 Raymond Ave., 239-6233
LELAND HOUSE, 141 Leland Ave., 405-2000
ROCK (Real Options for City Kids), 590 Leland Ave., 333-4001
SUNNYDALE DEVELOPMENT COO OFFICE, 1652 Sunnydale Ave., 841-1683
VISITACION VALLEY SENIOR CENTER, 66 Raymond Ave., 467-4499

PHARMACY
VISITACION VALLEY PHARMACY, 100 Leland Ave., 239-5811

PHOTOGRAPHER
WALTER CORBIN PHOTOGRAPHY (freelance), 435 Sawyer St., 587-9471, fax 337-8620

PLUMBING
MARK VOELKER PLUMBING, 99 Arleta Ave., 467-7401

POST OFFICE
VISITACION USPO, 68 Leland Ave., (800) 275-8777

REAL ESTATE
JUSTYNA P. TO, (Realtor, Coldwell Banker), (415) 830-1235
LaFLUE-WALTON & ASSOCIATES, 2428 Bayshore Blvd., 587-8683
CATHY KLINE SAUNDERS (Zephyr Real Estate), 215 West Portal Ave. 731-5011 ex. 163

RESTAURANTS
BAYSIDE CAFE, 2011 Bayshore Blvd., 467-2023
HAPPY FAMILY FAST FOOD, 107 Leland Ave., 333-8999
G & L BAKERY & RESTAURANT, 198 Leland Ave., 239-6283
LUAN FAT BAKERY, 110 Leland Ave., 585-1167
NAYANT TAQUERIA, 98 Leland Ave., 587-7721
TWO JACK'S, 167 Leland Ave., 337-0433

SCULPTOR
CARTORIGINALS (Mikal Carlor), 2 Hahn St., 239-4138

SELF-DEVELOPMENT
DYNAMIC DEVELOPMENTS (Marjorie Ann Williams, CEO, Career and Self-Enhancements Specialist) 467-7608

SERVICE PROVIDERS
THE VILLAGE, 1099 Sunnydale Ave., 239-5045
VISITACION VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH OUTREACH CENTER, 57 Leland Ave.
VISITACION VALLEY BILINGUAL EDUCATION SUPPORTIVE SERVICES & TRAINING, 120 Leland Ave.
VISITACION VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER (VVCC), 50 Raymond Ave., 467-6400
VVCC FAMILY & COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER, 161 Leland Ave., 586-6998, Fax 586-8027
VISITACION VALLEY BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES AND OUTREACH TO MERCHANTS (VVBOOM), 91 Leland Ave., 585-2338

TELEPHONE
O & A WIRELESS, 78 Leland Ave., 452-4139

VARIETY
GOLDEN 99 CENTS ZONE, 5-7 Leland Ave., 333-3923

Eight Ways to be Water Wise at Home

Here's a statistic you may not want to raise a glass to: The average American uses 100 gallons of water each day (enough to fill 1,600 drinking glasses), according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Meanwhile, the U.S. government has projected that more than 70 percent of the country—at least 36 states—will face water shortages by the year 2012 due to a combination of rising temperatures, drought, population growth, urban sprawl, waste and excess.

Managing water is a growing concern in the United States and around the world. The good news is that there is much we can do to preserve and protect this precious, limited resource—starting at home. Following are eight easy ways you can help make every drop count:

1. "Flush" old toilets: Older toilets can use as much as seven gallons of water per flush. New toilets are not only designed to use less water, they are required by law to use less water. Replacing your toilet will save water by lowering each flush to 1.6 gpf (gallons per flush) or less.

2. Cut it short: Shortening your showers by even one or two minutes can save up to 600 gallons each month. If you prefer baths, reduce the water level an inch or two and you will save five to 10 gallons each time.

3. Turn it off: When brushing teeth or washing your hands or face, turn the water off when it's not being used.

4. Plug it: When shaving, plug the drain and fill the sink only enough to rinse your razor. This will achieve a huge savings compared to allowing the water to run.

5. Go (low) with the flow: Older showerheads can flow as much as 3.2 gallons of water per minute or more, much of it wasted. And while today's showers are restricted to a flow rate of 2.5 gallons per minute (gpm), there are new

"low-flow" models that deliver even fewer gallons per minute, resulting in significant water savings. Kitchen and bath faucets are also available in low-flow versions. And you don't have to trade style and performance for eco-sensibility. For instance, a leading manufacturer of quality faucet and shower products offers more than 60 low-flow faucets and showerheads that blend quality with eco-friendly benefits. Grohe's WaterCare® line helps consumers reduce water consumption by up to 30 percent with flow rates of just 1.5 gpm, well below the industry standard of 2.5 gpm (for showers) and 2.2 gpm (for faucets). Additionally, all of the company's low-flow products are I.A.P.M.O. Green Certified and all of its bathroom faucets are EPA WaterSense certified.

Beyond the Bathroom...

6. Load up: Run the washing machine and dishwasher only with full loads. Older machines can use as much as 25 to 60 gallons per run. Most newer washing machines have water level settings that, when used appropriately, save 300 to 600 gallons per month. If you do dishes by hand, use one sink for wash water and one for rinse water. If you have one sink, use it for wash water and place washed dishes on a rack and rinse together with a spray device.

7. Go "green" when cleaning greens: Use the sink or a bowl of water to clean vegetables instead of letting the water run. After cleaning, a brief rinse is all you need.

8. Bottle it up: Keep a bottle of tap water in your refrigerator rather than running the faucet until the water is cool.

More good news: Saving water will also save you money. For more tips on how to be water wise at home, visit www.epa.gov/watersense. For information about WaterCare products, visit www.groheamerica.com. **NAPS**

Visitacion Valley Family and Community Services Center



For a Better, Healthier, Safer Community for All

We Can Help You!

Complete Immigration documents, assist with SF County paperwork (Medi-Cal, Welfare, etc.), education workshops, referrals to other services

Parent Education Classes

4:30 to 6 p.m.

Thursday, May 7: Embarrassment
Thursday, May 14: Talk It Up
Speaker: Julia Carmen
JC and Associates

After School Program Parent Meeting & Workshop

Wednesday, May 13,
5:30 - 7 p.m. at 50 Raymond Ave.

Family Literacy

Spring 2009 (Jumpstart)

"Celebration and Resources"

Wednesday, May 6, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
at 325 Leland Ave.

Family Literacy

Introducing Media Series

Thursday, May 28, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m.
at VVCC Library, 45 Leland Ave.

May 2009 Activities

held at 161 Leland Avenue
except where noted

Enhanced Information and Referral

Every Monday Through Friday
May 1 to 31, 9:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

See Me Event

Sunday, May 3, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Family Event at Civic Center Plaza

Parents Support Group

Thursday, May 21, 4:30 to 6 p.m.
"Cultural Competency Skills"

Male Involvement Group

Saturday, May 9, 1 to 3 p.m.

Family and Community Services Center staff:
Meriam Abalos, Marichelle Punzalan, Jenny Sosa
Kevin Blackwell, Jack Kwong and Molly Hassler



Every Monday & Wednesday

May 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 29 and 27
6 - 8 p.m.

Men's Classes
Facilitated by
Before The After
FREE Refreshments



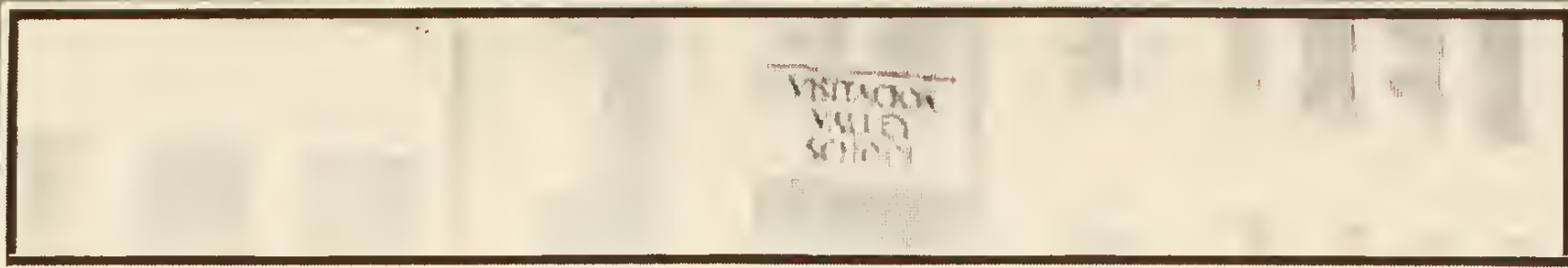
Free Food Distribution

Every Monday,
3 - 4 p.m.

May 4, 11 and 18
Emergency food box
available anytime.
Call (415) 586-6998,
Monday-Friday,
9 a.m.-5 p.m.

161 Leland Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94134

Tel: (415) 586-6998 Fax: (415) 586-8027 e-mail: meriam_vvcc@sbcglobal.net



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